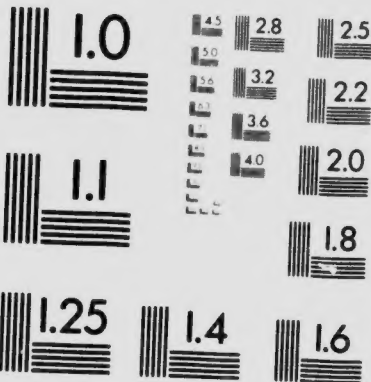


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TORONTO, ONT.  
Head Office

THE CANADIAN BANK  
OF COMMERCE

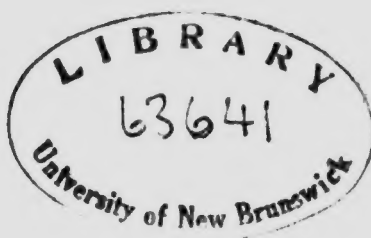
CHARTER AND ANNUAL REPORTS

1867 - 1907

VOLUME I.

TORONTO  
1907







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# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

CAPITAL PAID UP - - - - - \$10,000,000  
REST - - - - - \$5,000,000

HEAD OFFICE - - - - - TORONTO

## *DIRECTORS :*

B. E. WALKER, ESQ.,	PRESIDENT.
ROBERT KILGOUR, ESQ.,	VICE-PRESIDENT.
HON. GEO. A. COX	HON. L. MELVIN JONES
MATTHEW LEGGAT, ESQ.	FREDERIC NICHOLLS, ESQ.
JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.	H. D. WARREN, ESQ.
JOHN HOSKIN, ESQ., K.C., LL.D.	HON. W. C. EDWARDS
JOSEPH W. FLAVELLE, ESQ.	Z. A. LASH, ESQ., K.C.
A. KINGMAN, ESQ.	E. R. WOOD, ESQ.

## *LONDON, ENGLAND, BOARD :*

WILLIAM C. WARD, ESQ., - Chairman.  
HENRY J. GARDINER, ESQ.

## *HALIFAX BOARD :*

H. N. WALLACE, ESQ., - Chairman.  
C. W. ANDERSON, ESQ. W. J. G. THOMSON, ESQ.  
JOHN McNAB, ESQ. W. N. WICKWIRE, ESQ.

## *CHARLOTTETOWN BOARD :*

W. A. WEEKS, ESQ., - Chairman.  
F. R. HEARTZ, ESQ. HON. A. PETERS, ESQ., K.C.  
J. S. HINTON, ESQ. A. P. PROWSE, ESQ.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

CAPITAL PAID-UP	- - - - -	\$10,000,000
REST	- - - - -	\$5,000,000

HEAD OFFICE - - - TORONTO

## OFFICERS :

### *PRESIDENT*

B. E. WALKER

---

### *GENERAL MANAGER*

ALEXANDER LAIRD

---

### *SUPERINTENDENT OF BRANCHES*

A. H. IRELAND

---

### *SUPERINTENDENT OF PACIFIC COAST BRANCHES*

H. H. MORRIS

---

### *CHIEF INSPECTOR*

V. C. BROWN

---

### *ASSISTANT INSPECTORS*

T. F. ASPDEN

J. P. BELL

WM. HOGG

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### *SECRETARY*

A. ST. L. TRIGGE



AYR, ONT.



## CHRONOLOGY

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- 9th August, 1858.—Petition of Hon. Mr. Cayley and others, praying for an Act of Incorporation under the name and style of the "Bank of Canada," laid before the Legislative Council of the Province of Canada by Hon. Mr. Vankoughnet, and before the Legislative Assembly by Hon. Mr. Cayley. On the same day a bill intituled "An Act to incorporate the Bank of Canada" was presented to the Legislative Council by Hon. Mr. Vankoughnet.
- 11th August, 1858.—The Council requested the concurrence of the Assembly in the Act of Incorporation of the "Bank of Canada" which they had passed.
- 16th August, 1858.—Act of Incorporation of the "Bank of Canada" assented to by the Governor-General, Right. Hon. Sir William Head, Bart.
- 3rd August, 1866.—Petition of the Provisional Directors of the "Bank of Canada," praying for the passing of an Act to change the title of the Bank, to reduce the capital stock and to fix the date for the second election of Directors, presented to the Council by Hon. Mr. Ross, and to the Assembly by Mr. Morrison. On the same day a bill intituled an "Act to amend the Charter of the Bank of Canada" was introduced in the Council by Hon. Mr. Ross.
- 6th August, 1866.—Bill to amend the charter reported from the Council Committee on Banking and Currency, read a third time, and sent down to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence.
- 15th August, 1866.—Act to amend the charter of the Bank of Canada and to change the name thereof to The Canadian Bank of Commerce assented to by the Governor-General, Viscount Monk.

18th April, 1867.—General meeting of the shareholders of the Bank for the purpose of electing seven Directors held in the Mechanics' Institute, Church Street, Toronto.

At a subsequent meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors held that afternoon, Hon. William McMaster was elected President of the Bank and Henry S. Howland, Vice-President. Archibald Greer was appointed Cashier.

14th May, 1867.—Opening of first branches of the Bank, at London, St. Catharines and Barrie, authorized by the Board.

15th May, 1867.—Bank opened for business in Toronto.

5th November, 1867.—R. J. Dallas, Manager of the Bank of Toronto, Montreal, appointed Cashier in the room of Archibald Greer, resigned.

26th November, 1867.—Declaration of first dividend, payable 2nd January, 1868, at the rate of 8% per annum for a period of 7½ months.

6th July, 1868.—First annual general meeting of shareholders.

22nd June, 1869.—Act passed extending charters of several existing banks (including The Canadian Bank of Commerce) to the end of the session of Parliament commencing next after 1st June, 1870.

Royal assent given to the Act of Parliament authorizing increase of capital stock of Bank from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000.

29th September, 1869.—H. S. Strathy, Manager at London, Ontario, appointed Cashier, vice R. J. Dallas, resigned.

26th October, 1869.—Provisional agreements for amalgamation between The Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Gore Bank ratified by special meeting of shareholders, and application to Parliament for confirming legislation authorized.



- 12th May, 1870.—Royal assent given to Act of Parliament providing for the amalgamation between The Canadian Bank of Commerce and the President, Directors and Company of the Gore Bank, and authorizing an increase of the capital stock of the former Bank from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000.
- 13th May, 1870.—Directors resolve to open a branch at No. 10 Place d'Armes, in the City of Montreal.
- 21st December, 1870.—Special general meeting of shareholders held for the purpose of authorizing the Directors to apply to the Minister of Finance for a modification and extension of the charter.
- 25th January, 1871.—Directors resolve to establish an agency in New York.
- 11th July, 1871.—Shareholders authorize increase in capital stock of \$2,000,000, making the total authorized capital \$6,000,000.
- 31st December, 1872.—W. N. Anderson, Inspector, appointed Cashier in the room of H. S. Strathy, resigned.
- 14th July, 1874.—Title of chief officer of Bank changed from Cashier to General Manager.
- 1st May, 1875.—Chicago agency opened for business.
- 1st October, 1878.—Establishment of Officers' Guarantee Fund.
- 30th April, 1886.—Chicago agency closed.
- 13th July, 1886.—Retirement of Hon. William McMaster from the Presidency of the Bank. Henry W. Darling elected as his successor.
- 27th July 1886.—Board of Directors resolve to undertake the erection of a new building for the Head Office of the Bank.
- 12th October, 1886.—B. E. Walker appointed General Manager in the room of W. N. Anderson, resigned.

- 
- 17th June, 1890.—George A. Cox elected President in the room of Henry W. Darling, resigned.
- 1st May, 1893.—Branch at Winnipeg, Manitoba, opened for business.
- 1st June, 1894.—Establishment of Pension Fund for officers of the Bank.
- 10th May, 1898.—Canadian Bank of Commerce party sailed from Vancouver to open branch at Dawson City.
- 15th June, 1898.—Branch at Dawson City, Yukon Territory, opened for business.
- 15th September, 1898.—Branch at Vancouver opened for business.
- 2nd January, 1901.—Amalgamation with Bank of British Columbia.
- 14th April, 1903.—Shareholders at special general meeting passed By-law increasing capital stock from eight to ten million dollars.
- 1st June, 1903.—Amalgamation with Halifax Banking Company.
- 1st June, 1906.—Amalgamation with Merchants Bank of Prince Edward Island.
- 8th January, 1907.—Hon. George A. Cox retired as President, and B. E. Walker elected in his place.
- 15th January, 1907.—Alexander Laird appointed General Manager upon the retirement of B. E. Walker, consequent upon his election to the Presidency.

## ORIGINAL CHARTER OF THE BANK

VICTORIA, CHAP. 131.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE BANK OF CANADA.

ASSENTED TO 16TH AUGUST, 1858.

Whereas the Honourable William Cayley, the Honourable Joseph Curran Morrison, Angus Morrison, Esquire, the Honourable John Ross, and William Henry Boulton, and Frederick Cumberland, Esquires, all of the City of Toronto, have by their petition prayed that they and their legal representatives might be incorporated for the purpose of establishing a Bank in the City of Toronto; and whereas it would be conducive to the general prosperity of the country hereabouts, and greatly facilitate and promote the agricultural and commercial growth of the said locality; and whereas it is but just that the said persons and others who see fit to associate themselves, should be incorporated for the said purpose: therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. The several persons hereinbefore named, and such other persons as may become Shareholders in the Company to be by this Act created, and their assigns, shall be, and they are hereby created, constituted and declared to be a corporation, body corporate and politic, by the name of the "Bank of Canada," and shall continue such corporation, and shall have perpetual succession under a corporate seal.

with power to alter and change the same at pleasure, and may sue and be sued, implead or be impleaded in all courts of law as other corporations may do; and shall have the power to acquire and hold real and immoveable estate for the management of their business, not exceeding the yearly value of fifteen thousand dollars currency, and may sell, alienate or exchange the same, and acquire other instead, and may, when duly organized as hereinafter provided, make, ordain and establish such rules, regulations and by-laws as to them shall seem meet and necessary for the due and proper administration of their affairs and the management of the said Bank, (such by-laws, rules and regulations not being inconsistent with this Act or contrary to the laws of this Province): provided, however, that such by-laws, rules and regulations shall be submitted for approval to the Stockholders or Shareholders in the said Bank, at their regular annual meetings.

2. The Capital Stock of the said Bank (the words "the said Bank" meaning throughout this Act the corporation aforesaid,) shall be three millions of dollars divided into shares of fifty dollars, which shall be and are hereby vested in the several persons who shall subscribe for the same, their legal representatives and assigns.

3. The said Honourable William Cayley, the Honourable Joseph Curran Morrison, Angus Morrison, Esquire, the Honourable John Ross, William Henry Boulton, Esquire, and Frederick Cumberland, Esquire, shall be the Provisional Directors of the said Bank for the purpose of opening books of subscription for the stock of the said Bank, at the City of Toronto, and at such other places as to them shall seem meet, and to receive subscriptions for the said stock, and to do such other things relative to the said subscription and the management of the affairs of the said Bank, as it may be requisite to do before the first general meeting of the Stockholders for the election of Directors as hereinafter mentioned.

4. As soon as the sum of one million of dollars of the said Capital Stock shall have been subscribed, and two hundred and fifty thousand dollars actually paid in thereupon, it shall and may be lawful for the subscribers, or a majority of them, to call a meeting at some place to be named in Toronto, for the purpose of proceeding to the election of the number of Directors for the said Bank, hereinafter mentioned, and such election shall then and there be made by a majority of shares voted upon, in the manner hereinafter described in respect of the annual election of Directors, and the persons then and there chosen shall be the first Directors, and shall be capable of serving until the first Monday of June, which will be in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine; provided always that no such meeting of the said subscribers shall take place until a notice specifying the objects of such meeting is published in one or more newspapers published in Toronto, at least twenty days previous to such time of meeting.

5. The shares of the Capital Stock subscribed for shall be paid in and by such instalments, and at such times and places as the said Directors shall appoint; and executors, administrators and curators paying instalments upon the shares of deceased Shareholders, shall be and they are hereby respectively indemnified for paying the same; provided always that no share or shares shall be held to be lawfully subscribed for unless a sum equal to at least ten per centum on the amount subscribed for be actually paid at the time of subscribing; provided further that it shall not be lawful for the subscribers to the Capital Stock hereby authorized to be raised, to commence the business of banking until a sum not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars shall have been duly paid in by such subscribers; provided further that the remainder of the said Capital Stock shall be subscribed and paid up as follows, that is to say: the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars within eighteen months; the further sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars within

three years : the further sum of five hundred thousand dollars within four years : the further sum of five hundred thousand dollars within five years, and the further sum of five hundred thousand dollars within seven years after the said Bank shall have so commenced the business of banking, under penalty of forfeiture of their Charter.

6. If any person or persons subscribing for shares of the Capital Stock of the said Bank shall also be willing to pay up at the time of subscribing the full amount of the shares subscribed for, it shall and may be lawful for the Directors of the Bank, and at any time within the period hereinbefore limited for subscribing for such stock, to admit and receive such subscriptions and full payment or payment of any number of instalments.

7. If any Shareholder or Shareholders shall refuse or neglect to pay any instalment upon his, her or their shares of the said Capital Stock at the time or times required by the Directors as aforesaid, such Shareholder or Shareholders shall incur a forfeiture to the use of the said Bank of a sum of money equal to ten per centum on the amount of such shares ; and moreover, it shall be lawful for the Directors of the said Bank (without any previous formality other than thirty days' public notice of their intention), to sell at public auction the said shares, or so many of the said shares as shall, after deducting the reasonable expenses of the sale, yield a sum of money sufficient to pay the unpaid instalments due on the remainder of the said shares, and the amount of forfeitures incurred on the whole : and the President with the Vice-President, or the Cashier of the said Bank, shall execute the transfer to the purchaser of the shares of stock so sold, and such transfer being accepted shall be as valid and effectual in law as if the same had been executed by the original holder or holders of the shares of stock thereby transferred ; provided always that nothing in this section contained shall be held to debar the Directors or Shareholders at a general



BLLENHEIM, ONT.





meeting from remitting either in whole or in part, and conditionally or unconditionally, any forfeiture incurred by the non-payment of any instalment as aforesaid.

8. The chief place or seat of business of the said Bank shall be in Toronto, but it shall and may be lawful for the Directors of the Bank to open and establish in other places, towns and cities in this Province, Branches, or agencies, or offices of discount and deposit of the said Bank, under such rules and regulations for the good and faithful management of the same as to the said Directors shall from time to time seem meet, not being repugnant to any law of this Province, to this Act, or to the by-laws of the said Bank.

9. For the management of the affairs of the said Bank, there shall be seven Directors annually elected by the Shareholders of the Capital Stock thereof, at a general meeting of them to be held annually on the first Monday in June in each year following the first election, as hereinbefore mentioned; at which meetings the Shareholders shall vote according to the scale or rule of votes hereinafter established; and the Directors elected by a majority of votes given in conformity to such rule or scale shall be capable of serving as Directors for the ensuing twelve months; and at their first meeting after such election the Directors shall choose out of their number a President and a Vice-President, who shall hold their offices respectively during the same period; and in case of a vacancy occurring in the said number of seven Directors, the remaining Directors shall fill the same by election from among the Shareholders, and such Director so elected shall be capable of serving as a Director until the next annual general meeting of the Shareholders; and in the vacancy occurring in the said number of seven Directors shall also cause the vacancy of the office of President or of Vice-President, the Directors, at their first meeting after their number shall have been completed as aforesaid, shall fill the vacant office by choice or election from among themselves, and the Directors so chosen or elected to be President or Vice-President shall hold the office to which

he shall be so chosen or elected until the next general annual meeting of the Shareholders : provided always, that each of the Directors shall be the holder and proprietor in his own name of not less than fifty shares of Capital Stock of the said Bank wholly paid up, and shall be a natural-born or naturalized subject of Her Majesty : and provided also that it shall be lawful for the Shareholders at any annual meeting to pass a by-law directing that four of the Directors in office at the period of such annual election shall be re-elected for the next ensuing twelve months.

10. If at any time it shall happen that an election of Directors shall not be made or take effect on the day fixed by this Act, the said corporation shall not be deemed or taken to be thereby dissolved, but it shall be lawful at any subsequent time to make such election at a general meeting of the Shareholders to be called for that purpose : and the Directors in office when such failure of election shall take place shall remain in office until such election shall be made.

11. The books, correspondence and funds of the said Bank shall at all times be subject to the inspection of the Directors, but no Shareholder not being a Director shall inspect or be allowed to inspect the account or accounts of any person or persons dealing with the said Bank.

12. At all meetings of the Directors of the said Bank, not less than three of them shall constitute a board or quorum for the transaction of business : and at the said meetings the President, or in his absence the Vice-President, or in their absence one of the Directors present to be chosen *pro tempore* shall preside : and the President, Vice-President or President *pro tempore* so presiding shall vote as a Director only.

13. It shall and may be lawful for the Directors of the said Bank from time to time to make and enact by-laws, rules and regulations (the same not being repugnant to this Act or to the laws of this Province), for the proper management of the affairs of the said corporation, and from time to time to alter or repeal the same and others to make and enact in their stead :

provided always that no by-law, rule or regulation so made by the Directors shall have force or effect until the same shall, after six weeks' public notice, have been confirmed by the Shareholders at an annual general meeting, or at a special general meeting called for that purpose.

14. The Shareholders may by a by-law appropriate a sum of money for the remuneration of the services of the President and Directors as such, and the President and Directors may annually apportion the same among themselves as they may think fit: no Director shall act as a private banker.

15. The Directors of the said Bank shall have power to appoint a Cashier, Assistant Cashier and Secretary, and clerks and servants under them, and such other officers as shall be necessary for conducting the business of the said Bank, and to allow reasonable compensation for their services respectively, and shall also be capable of exercising such powers and authority for the well governing and ordering of the affairs of the corporation as shall be prescribed by the by-laws thereof: provided always that before permitting any Cashier, Assistant Cashier, officer, clerk or servant of the Bank, to enter upon the duties of his office, the Directors shall require him to give bond with sureties to the satisfaction of the Directors, that is to say: every Cashier in a sum not less than twenty thousand dollars, every Assistant Cashier in the sum of twelve thousand dollars, and every other officer, clerk or servant in such sum of money as the Directors shall consider adequate to the trust reposed in him, with condition for good and faithful behaviour.

16. It shall be the duty of the Directors to make half-yearly dividends of so much of the profits of the said Bank as to them shall appear advisable, and such dividends shall be payable at such place or places as the Directors shall appoint, and of which they shall give thirty days' public notice previously: provided always that such dividends shall not in any manner lessen or impair the Capital Stock of the said Bank.

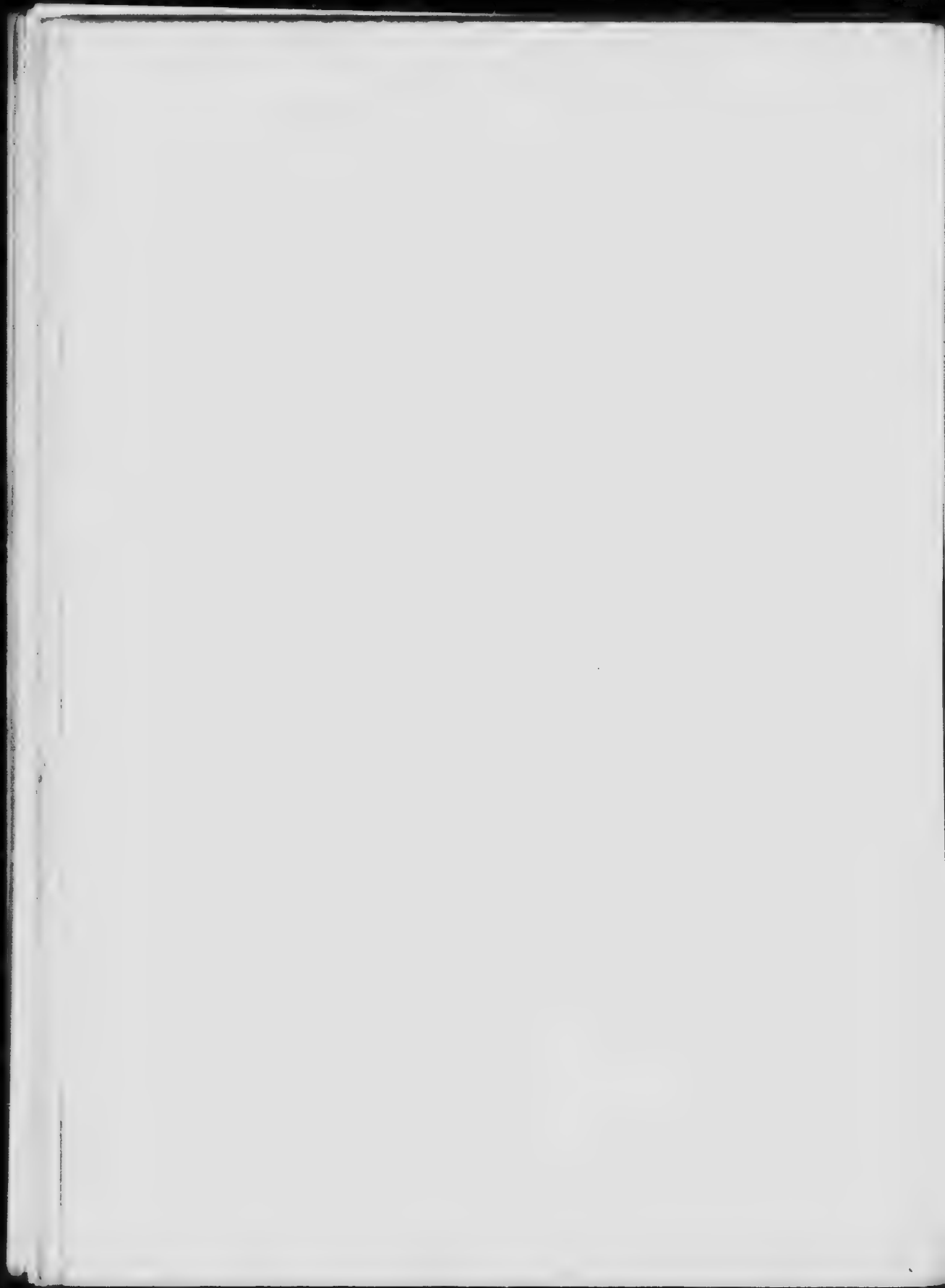
17. The general meetings of the Shareholders of the said Bank to be held annually as aforesaid, in Toronto, for the

purpose of electing Directors in the manner hereinbefore provided, shall be general meetings also for all other general purposes touching the affairs and the management of the affairs of the said Bank; and at each of the said annual general meetings the Directors shall exhibit a full and clear statement of the affairs of the Bank.

18. The number of votes which the Shareholders of the said Bank shall respectively be entitled to give at their meetings shall be according to the following scale, that is to say: for one share and not more than two, one vote; for every two shares above two and not exceeding ten, one vote, making five votes for ten shares; for every four shares above ten and not exceeding thirty, one vote, making ten votes for every thirty shares; for every six shares above thirty and not exceeding sixty, one vote, making fifteen votes for sixty shares; and for every eight shares above sixty and not exceeding one hundred, one vote, making twenty votes for one hundred shares; and no Shareholder shall be entitled to give a greater number of votes than twenty; and it shall be lawful for absent Shareholders to give their votes by proxy, such proxy being also a Shareholder, and being provided with a written authority from his constituent or constituents, in such form as shall be established by a by-law, and which authority shall be lodged in the Bank; provided always that a share or shares of the Capital Stock of the said Bank which shall have been held for a less period than three calendar months immediately prior to any meeting of the Shareholders shall not entitle the holder or holders to vote at such meeting either in person or by proxy; provided also that where two or more persons are joint holders of shares, it shall be lawful that one only of such joint holders be empowered by letter of attorney from the other joint holder or holders, or a majority of them, to represent the said shares and vote accordingly; and provided also that no Shareholder who shall not be a natural-born or naturalized subject of Her Majesty, or who shall be a subject or citizen of any foreign prince or state,



BRANDON, MAN.



shall, either in person or by proxy, vote at any meeting whatever of the Shareholders of the said Bank, or shall assist in calling any meeting of the Shareholders; anything in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

19. No Cashier, Assistant Cashier, bank clerk or other officer of the Bank, shall vote either in person or by proxy at any meeting for the election of Directors, or hold a proxy for that purpose.

20. Any number, not less than twenty-five of the Shareholders of the said Bank, who together shall be proprietors of at least one hundred shares of the paid-up Capital Stock of the said Bank, by themselves or their proxies, or the Directors of the said Bank, or any four of them, shall respectively have power at any time to call a special general meeting of the Shareholders of the said Bank, to be held at their usual place of meeting in Toronto, upon giving six weeks' previous public notice thereof, and specifying in such notice the object or objects of such meeting; and if the object of any such special general meeting be to consider of the proposed removal of the President or of a Director or Directors of the corporation for mal-administration or other specified and apparently just cause, then and in any such case the person or persons whom it shall be so proposed to remove, shall, from the day on which the notice shall be first published, be suspended from the duties of his or their office or offices, and if it be the President or Vice-President whose removal shall be proposed as aforesaid, his office shall be filled up by the remaining Directors (in the manner hereinbefore provided in the case of a vacancy occurring in the office of President or Vice-President), who shall choose or elect a Director to serve as such President or Vice-President during the time such suspension shall continue to be undecided upon.

21. The shares of the Capital Stock of the said Bank shall be held and adjudged to be personal estate and shall be transmissible accordingly, and shall be assignable and transferable at the chief place of business of the said Bank, or at any of its branches which the Directors shall appoint

for that purpose, and according to such form as the Directors shall from time to time prescribe ; but no assignment or transfer shall be valid and effectual unless it be made and registered in a book or books to be kept by the Directors for that purpose, nor until the person or persons making the same shall previously discharge all debts actually due or contracted, and not then due by him, her or them to the Bank, which may exceed in amount the remaining stock (if any) belonging to such person or persons ; and no fractional part or parts of a share or other than a whole share shall be assignable or transferable ; and when any share or shares of the said Capital Stock shall have been sold under a writ of execution, the sheriff by whom the writ shall have been executed shall, within thirty days after the sale, leave with the Cashier of the Bank an attested copy of the writ, with the certificate of such sheriff indorsed thereon, certifying to whom the sale has been made, and thereupon (but not until after all debts due or contracted but not then due by the original holder or holders of the said shares to the Bank shall have been discharged as aforesaid), the President, or Vice-President, or Cashier of the corporation shall execute the transfer of the share or shares so sold to the purchaser, and such transfer, being duly executed, shall be to all intents and purposes as valid and effectual in law as if it had been executed by the original holder or holders of the said share or shares ; any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

22. Shares in the Capital Stock of the said Bank may be made transferable, and the dividends accruing thereon may be made payable in the United Kingdom in like manner as such shares and dividends are respectively transferable and payable at the chief office of the said Bank at Toronto ; and to that end the Directors may from time to time make such rules and regulations and prescribe such forms, and appoint such agent or agents as they may deem necessary.

23. If the interest in any share in the said Bank become transmitted in consequence of the death or bankruptcy, or



insolvency of any Shareholder, or in consequence of the marriage of a female Shareholder, or by any other lawful means than by a transfer according to the provisions of this Act, such transmission shall be authenticated by a declaration in writing as hereinafter mentioned, or in such other manner as the Directors of the Bank shall require; and every such declaration shall distinctly state the manner in which and the party to whom, such share shall have been so transmitted and shall be by such party made and signed; and every such declaration shall be, by the party making and signing the same, acknowledged before a Justice of a Court of Record, or before the Mayor, Provost or Chief Magistrate of a city, town, Borough or other place, or before a Public Notary, where the same shall be made and signed; and every such declaration so signed and acknowledged shall be left with the Cashier, or other officer or agent of the Bank, who shall thereupon enter the name of the party entitled under such transmission in the register of Shareholders; and until such transmission shall have been so authenticated, no party or person claiming by virtue of any such transmission, shall be entitled to receive any share of the profits of the Bank, nor to vote in respect of any such share as the holder thereof; provided always that every such declaration and instrument as by this and the following section of this Act is required to perfect the transmission of a share in the Bank which shall be made in any other country than in this or some other of the British Colonies in North America, or in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, shall be further authenticated by the British Consul or Vice-Consul, or other the accredited representative of the British Government in the country where the declaration shall be made, or shall be made directly before such British Consul, or Vice-Consul or other accredited representative; and provided also that nothing in this Act contained shall be held to debar the Directors, Cashier, or other officer or agent of the Bank from requiring corroborative evidence of any fact or facts alleged in any such declaration.

24. If the transmission of any share of the said Bank be by virtue of the marriage of a female Shareholder, the declaration shall contain a copy of the register of such marriage and other particulars of the celebration thereof, and shall declare the identity of the wife with the holder of such share; and if the transmission have taken place by virtue of any testamentary instrument, or by intestacy, the probate of the will or the letters of administration, or act of curatorship, or an official extract therefrom, shall, together with such declaration, be produced and left with the Cashier or other officer or agent of the Bank, who shall, thereupon enter the name of the party entitled under such transmission in the register of Shareholders.

25. If the transmission of any share or shares in the Capital Stock of the said Bank be by decease of any Shareholder, the production to the Directors and deposit with them of any probate of the will of the deceased Shareholder, or of letters of administration of his estate granted by any Court in this Province having power to grant such probate or letters of administration, or by any prerogative, diocesan, or peculiar court or authority in England, Wales, Ireland, India, or any other British colony, or of any testamentary, or testament dative expedite in Scotland, or if the deceased Shareholder shall have died out of Her Majesty's dominions, the production to and deposit with the Directors of any probate of his will or letters of administration of his property, or other document of like import granted by any Court or authority having the requisite power in such matters shall be sufficient justification and authority to the Directors for paying any dividend or transferring or authorizing the transfer of any share in pursuance of, and in conformity to such probate, letters of administration or other such document as aforesaid.

26. The said Bank shall not be bound to see to the execution of any trust, whether expressed, implied or constructive, to which any of the shares of its stock shall be subject; and the receipt of the party in whose name any such share shall

stand in the books of the Bank, or if it stands in the name of more parties than one, the receipt of one of the parties shall from time to time be a sufficient discharge to the Bank for any dividend or other sum of money payable in respect of such share, notwithstanding any trust to which such share may then be subject, and whether or not the Bank have had notice of such trust: and the Bank shall not be bound to see to the application of the money paid upon such receipt, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

27. It shall be the duty of the Directors of the said Bank to invest, as speedily as the debentures hereinafter mentioned can be procured from the Receiver General, and to keep invested at all times in the debentures of this Province, payable within the same, or secured upon the Consolidated Municipal Loan Fund, one tenth part of the whole paid-up capital of the said Bank, and to make a return of the numbers and amount of such debentures, verified by the oaths and signatures of the President and Chief Cashier or Manager of the said Bank to the Inspector General in the month of January in each year, under the penalty of the forfeiture of the Charter of the said Bank in default of such investment and return.

28. The said Bank shall not either directly or indirectly hold any lands or tenements (save and except such as by the first section of this Act it is especially authorized to acquire and hold), or any ships or other vessels, or any share or shares of the Capital Stock of the said Bank, or of any other bank in this Province; nor shall the said Bank, either directly or indirectly, lend money or make advances upon the security, mortgage or hypothecation (*hypothèque*) of any lands or tenements, or of any ships or other vessels, nor upon the security or pledge of any share or shares of the Capital Stock of the said Bank, or of any goods, wares or merchandise; nor shall the said Bank, either directly or indirectly, raise loans of money, or deal in the buying, selling or bartering of goods, wares or merchandise, or engage or be engaged in any trade whatever, except as a dealer in gold and silver bullion, bills

of exchange, discounting of promissory notes and negotiable securities, and in such trade generally as legitimately appertains to the business of banking: provided always that the said Bank may take and hold mortgages and *hypothèques* on real estate, and on ships, vessels and other personal property in this Province, by way of additional security for debts contracted to the Bank in the course of its dealings, and also for such purpose may purchase and take any outstanding mortgages, judgments or other charges upon the real or personal property of any debtor of the said Bank.

29. The aggregate amount of discounts and advances made by the said Bank upon commercial paper or securities bearing the name of any Director of the said Bank, or the name of any co-partnership or firm in which any Director of the said Bank shall be partner, shall not at any one time exceed one twentieth of the total amount of discounts or advances made by the Bank at the same time.

30. The Bank may allow and pay interest not exceeding the legal rate in this Province, upon money deposited in the Bank; and in discounting promissory notes, bills, or other negotiable securities or paper, may receive or retain the discount thereon at the time of discounting or negotiating the same; and when notes, bills, or other negotiable securities or paper are *bonâ fide* payable at a place within the Province different from that at which they are discounted, the Bank may also, in addition to the discount, receive or retain an amount not exceeding one half per centum on the amount of each such note, bill, or other negotiable security or paper; and the Bank may charge any note or bill held by and made payable at the Bank, against the deposit account of the maker or acceptor of such note or bill, at the maturity thereof, any law, statute or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

31. The bonds, obligations and bills obligatory or of credit, of the said Bank, under its common seal, and signed by the President or Vice-President, and countersigned by a Cashier or Assistant Cashier thereof, which shall be made

payable to any person or persons; shall be assignable by indorsement thereon under the hand or hands of such person or persons, and of his, her, or their assignee or assignees, and so as absolutely to transfer and vest the property thereof in the several assignees successively, and to enable such assignee or assignees to bring and maintain an action or actions thereon, in his, her or their own name or names; and signification of any assignment by indorsement shall not be necessary, any law, custom or usage to the contrary notwithstanding; and bills or notes of the said Bank, signed by the President, Vice-President, Cashier or other officer appointed by the Directors of the said Bank to sign the same, promising the payment of money to any person or persons, his or their order, or to the bearer, though not under the corporate seal of the said Bank, shall be binding and obligatory upon it in the like manner and with the like force and effect as they would be upon any private person, if issued by him in his private or natural capacity, and shall be assignable in like manner as if they were so issued by a private person in his natural capacity; provided always that nothing in this Act shall be held to debar the Directors of the said Bank from authorizing or deputing from time to time any Cashier, Assistant Cashier or officer of the Bank, or any Director other than the President or Vice-President, or any Cashier, Manager, or local Director of any branch or office of discount and deposit of the said Bank, to sign the bills or notes of the corporation intended for general circulation and payable to order or to bearer on demand.

32. And whereas it may be deemed expedient that the name or names of the person or persons intrusted and authorized by the Bank to sign bank notes and bills on behalf of the Bank, should be impressed by machinery in such form as may from time to time be adopted by the Bank, instead of being subscribed in the hand-writing of such person or persons respectively; and whereas doubts might arise respecting the validity of such notes; be it therefore further declared and enacted, that all bank notes and bills of *The Bank of Canada*,

whereon the name or names of any person or persons intrusted or authorized to sign such notes or bills on behalf of the Bank, shall or may become impressed by machinery provided for that purpose, by or with the authority of the Bank, shall be and be taken to be good and valid to all intents and purposes, as if such notes and bills had been subscribed in the proper handwriting of the person or persons intrusted and authorized by the Bank to sign the same respectively, and shall be deemed and taken to be bank notes or bills within the meaning of all laws and statutes whatsoever; and shall and may be described as bank notes or bills in all indictments and civil or criminal proceedings whatsoever; any law, statute or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

33. The notes or bills of the Bank made payable to order or bearer, and intended for general circulation, whether the same shall issue from the chief seat or place of business of the said Bank in Toronto, or from any of its branches, shall be payable on demand in specie at the place where they bear date.

34. A suspension by the said Bank either at its chief place or seat of business in Toronto aforesaid, or at any of its branches or offices of discount and deposit at any other place in this Province of payment on demand in specie of the notes or bills of the said Bank, payable there on demand, shall, if the time of suspension extend to sixty days consecutively or at intervals, within any twelve consecutive months, operate as and be a forfeiture of its Charter, and of all and every the privileges granted to it by this Act.

35. The total amount of the bank notes and bills of the Bank, of all values in circulation at any one time shall never exceed the aggregate amount of the paid up Capital Stock of the Bank, and the gold and silver coin, and bullion and debentures, or other securities reckoned at par, issued or guaranteed by the Government under the authority of the Legislature of this Province, on hand; but no bank note, or bill of the Bank under the nominal value of one dollar shall be issued or put in circulation.

36. The total amount of the debts which the said Bank shall at any one time owe, whether by bond, bill, note or otherwise, shall not exceed three times the aggregate amount of its Capital Stock paid in, and the deposits made in the Bank in specie and in Government securities for money; and in case of excess, or in case the total amount of the bills or notes of the said Bank payable to order or to bearer on demand, and intended for general circulation, shall at any time exceed the amount hereinbefore limited, the said Bank shall forfeit its Charter and all the privileges granted to it by this Act, and the Directors under whose administration the excess shall happen shall be liable jointly and severally for the same in their private capacity, as well to the Shareholders as to the holders of the bonds, bills and notes of the said Bank, and an action or actions in this behalf may be brought against them or any of them, and the heirs, executors, administrators, or curators of them or any of them, and be prosecuted to judgment and execution according to law; but such action or actions shall not exempt the said Bank, or its lands, tenements, goods or chattels from being also liable for such excess; provided always, that if any Director present at the time of contracting any such excess of debt do forthwith, or if any Director absent at the time of contracting any such excess of debt do within twenty-four hours after he shall have obtained a knowledge thereof, enter on the minutes or register of the Bank his protest against the same, and do within eight days thereafter publish such protest in at least one newspaper published in Toronto, such Director may thereby, and not otherwise, exonerate and discharge himself, his heirs, executors and administrators, or curators from the liability aforesaid, any thing herein contained, or any law to the contrary notwithstanding; provided always that such justification shall not exonerate any Director from his liability as a Shareholder.

37. In the event of the property and assets of the said Bank becoming insufficient to liquidate the liabilities and engagements or debts thereof, the Shareholders of its stock

in their private or natural capacities shall be liable and responsible for the deficiency, but to no greater extent than to double the amount of their respective shares, that is to say, the liability and responsibility of each Shareholder to the creditors of the said Bank shall be limited to a sum of money equal in amount to his stock therein, over and above any instalment or instalments which may be unpaid on such stock, for which he shall also remain liable and which he shall pay up; provided always that nothing in this section contained shall be construed to alter or diminish the additional liabilities of the Directors of the said Bank hereinbefore mentioned and declared.

38. Besides the detailed statement of the affairs of the said Bank hereinbefore required to be laid before the Shareholders thereof, at their annual general meeting, the Directors shall make up and publish on the first Monday in each and every month, statements of the assets and liabilities of the said Bank in the form of the schedule A hereunto annexed, shewing under the heads specified in the said form the average amount of the notes of the said Bank in circulation, and other liabilities at the termination of the month to which the statement shall refer, and the average amount of specie and other assets that at the same time were available to meet the same; and it shall be the duty of the Directors to submit to the Governor of this Province, if required, a copy of such monthly statements, and if by him required to verify all or any parts of the said statements, the said Directors shall verify the same by the production of the weekly or monthly balance-sheets from which the said statements shall have been compiled; and furthermore, the said Directors shall, from time to time, when required, furnish to the said Governor of this Province, such further reasonable information respecting the state and proceedings of the said Bank and of the several branches and offices of discount and deposit thereof as such Governor of this Province may reasonably see fit to call for; provided always, that the weekly or monthly balance-sheets and the further



information that shall be so produced and given, shall be held by the said Governor of this Province as being produced and given in strict confidence, that he shall not divulge any part of the contents of the said weekly or monthly balance-sheets or of the information that shall be so given ; and provided also, that the Directors shall not, nor shall anything herein contained be construed to authorize them or any of them to make known the private accounts or account of any person or persons whatever having dealings with the said Bank.

39. It shall not be lawful for the said Bank at any time whatever, directly or indirectly, to advance or lend to or for the use of or on account of any foreign prince, power or state, any sum or sums of money or any securities for money ; and if such unlawful advance or loan be made, then and from thenceforth the said corporation shall be dissolved, and all the powers, authorities, rights, privileges and advantages granted to it, by this Act, shall cease and determine.

40. The several public notices by this Act required to be given, shall be given by advertisement in one or more of the newspapers published in Toronto, and in the *Canada Gazette*; or such other Gazette as shall be generally known and accredited as the Official Gazette, for the publication of official documents and notices emanating from the civil government of this Province, if any such Gazette be then published.

41. If any Cashier, Assistant Cashier, manager, clerk or servant of the said Bank shall secrete, embezzle, or abscond with any bond, obligation, bill obligatory or of credit, or other bill or note, or any security for money, or any moneys or effects intrusted to him as such Cashier, Assistant Cashier, manager, clerk or servant, whether the same belong to the said Bank, or belonging to any other person or persons, body or bodies politic or corporate, or institution or institutions, be lodged and deposited with the said Bank, the said Cashier, Assistant Cashier, manager, clerk or servant so offending, and being thereof convicted in due form of law, shall be deemed guilty of felony.

xxxii. THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

42. Every person convicted of felony under this Act shall be punished by imprisonment at hard labour in the Provincial penitentiary for any term not less than two years, or by imprisonment in any other gaol or place of confinement for any less term than two years in the discretion of the Court before which he shall be convicted.

43. It shall and may be lawful to and for any Justice of the Peace on complaint made before him upon the oath of one credible person, that there is just cause to suspect that any one or more person or persons is, or are or hath or have been concerned in making or counterfeiting any false bills of exchange, promissory notes, undertakings or orders of the said Bank, or hath in his possession any plates, presses or other instruments, tools or materials for making or counterfeiting the same, or any part thereof, by warrant under the hand of such Justice to cause the dwelling house, room, workshop or out-house or other building, yard, garden or other place belonging to such suspected person or persons, or where any such person or persons shall be suspected of carrying on any such making or counterfeiting, to be searched ; and if any such false bills of exchange, promissory notes, undertakings or orders, or any plates, presses or other tools, instruments or materials shall be found in the custody or possession of any person or persons whomsoever, not having the same by some lawful authority, it shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons whomsoever, discovering the same, to seize, and he or they are hereby authorized and required to seize such false or counterfeit bills of exchange, promissory notes, undertakings or orders, and such plates, presses or other tools, instruments or materials, and to carry the same forthwith before a Justice of the Peace of the county or district (or if more convenient, of the adjoining county or district) in which the same shall be seized, who shall cause the same to be secured and produced in evidence against any person or persons who shall or may be prosecuted for any of the offences aforesaid in some Court of Justice proper for the determination thereof, and the same,

after being so produced in evidence, shall, by order of the Court, be defaced or destroyed, or otherwise disposed of, as such Court shall direct.

44. Nothing in this Act contained shall, in any manner, derogate from, or affect, or be construed to derogate from or affect the rights of Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, or of any person or persons, or of any body or bodies politic or corporate, except in so far as the same may be specially derogated from or affected by the provisions of this Act.

45. This Act shall be held and taken to be a Public Act, and shall be known as the "Charter of the Bank of Canada," and the Interpretation Act shall apply thereto.

46. This Act shall be and remain in force until the first day of January, which will be in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and from that time, until the end of the then next session of the Parliament of this Province, and no longer.

xxxiv. THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

SCHEDULE A.

REFERRED TO IN THE THIRTY-SEVENTH SECTION OF THE  
FOREGOING ACT.

Return of the average amount of Liabilities and Assets of  
the Bank of Canada during the period from the first to  
one thousand eight hundred and

LIABILITIES.

Promissory notes in circulation not bearing interest..	\$
Bills of exchange in circulation not bearing interest..	\$
Bills and notes in circulation bearing interest.....	\$
Balances due to other Banks.....	\$
Cash deposits not bearing interest.....	\$
Cash deposits bearing interest.....	\$
Total average liabilities.....	\$

ASSETS.

Coin and bullion.....	\$
Landed or other property of the Bank.....	\$
Government securities.....	\$
Promissory notes or bills of other Banks.....	\$
Balances due from other Banks .....	\$
Notes and bills discounted.....	\$
Other debts due to the Bank, not included under the foregoing heads.....	\$
Total average assets.....	\$

## 29-30 VICTORIA, CHAP. 88.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE BANK OF CANADA,  
AND TO CHANGE THE NAME THEREOF TO THAT OF THE  
CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

ASSENTED TO 15TH AUGUST, 1866.

Whereas several of the Provisional Directors named in the Act passed in the twenty-second year of Her Majesty's reign, chaptered one hundred and thirty-one, and intituled: *An Act to incorporate The Bank of Canada*, have by petition prayed that the said Act may be amended, and it is expedient that the prayer of the said petition be granted: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

1. The corporation constituted by the said Act by and under the name and style of "The Bank of Canada," shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be known as "The Canadian Bank of Commerce."
2. The Capital Stock of the said Bank shall be reduced to, and be held to be, one million of dollars, divided into twenty thousand shares of fifty dollars.
3. It shall be lawful for the subscribers to the Capital Stock to begin the business of banking so soon as the sum of four hundred thousand dollars of the said Capital Stock shall have been subscribed, and a sum of not less than one hundred thousand dollars shall have been duly paid into one of the present chartered banks of this Province by such subscribers; provided however, that the further sum of two hundred thousand dollars shall be paid in within two years, and the further sum of two hundred thousand dollars within three years after

the Bank shall have commenced the business of banking, and the remainder of the said Capital Stock not later than the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, under penalty of forfeiture of their Charter.

4. As soon as the sum of four hundred thousand dollars of the said Capital Stock shall have been subscribed, and a sum of not less than one hundred thousand dollars shall have been duly paid in to one of the present chartered banks of this Province by such subscribers, it shall be lawful for such subscribers, or a majority of them, to call a meeting at some place, to be named, in Toronto, for the purpose of proceeding to the election of seven Directors for the said Bank; and such election shall then and there be made by a majority of shares voted upon, in the manner in the said Act prescribed in respect of the annual election of Directors; and the persons then and there chosen shall be the first Directors, and shall be capable of serving until the first Monday in July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven; and the second election of Directors of the said Bank shall take place on the first Monday in July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, and the first Monday in July in each year shall be the day on which all subsequent elections of Directors shall take place.

5. The said Act, as amended by this Act, shall be and remain in force until the first day of June, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and from that time until the end of the then next session of the Parliament of this Province, and no longer.

6. So much of the Act cited in the Preamble of this Act as may be inconsistent with or repugnant to the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed.

7. The powers and privileges conferred by this Act and the Act which it amends shall be subject to any future legislation which may take place, and no General Act, whereby any privilege hereby conferred may be affected or impaired shall be deemed a violation of the Charter of the said Bank.

8. This Act shall be deemed a Public Act.



CARMAN, MAN.  
Under construction





# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED - . . . . \$1,000,000  
CAPITAL PAID-UP - . . . . \$ 916,359

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER, - PRESIDENT.  
H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ., - - - VICE-PRESIDENT.  
WM. ALEXANDER, ESQ. T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.  
JAS. AUSTIN, ESQ. JOHN TAYLOR, ESQ.  
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

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R. J. DALLAS, Cashier.



## BRANCHES

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### ONTARIO—

BARRIE....	E. S. LALLY .....	Agent.
GUELPH.....	G. W. SANDILANDS .....	Manager.
HAMILTON.....	C. R. MURRAY .....	"
LONDON .....	H. S. STRATHY .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	H. C. BARWICK .....	"
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL.....	Agent.

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### BANKERS:

MONTREAL	-	-	THE MOLSONS BANK.
NEW YORK	-	-	THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC
LONDON, ENGLAND	-	-	THE LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH JUNE, 1868.

## LIABILITIES

Capital Stock paid-up . . . . .	\$ 916,359 00
Circulation . . . . .	\$ 702,388 00
Deposits . . . . .	1,302,480 70
	2,004,868 70
Reserve for interest accrued on deposits . . . . .	3,098 39
First Dividend unpaid . . . . .	101 91
Second Dividend, payable 1st July inst. . . . .	32,291 37
	35,491 67
Rest . . . . .	40,000 00
Balance of Profits carried forward . . . . .	362 01
	40,362 01

\$2,997,081 38

## ASSETS

Specie and Provincial Notes . . . . .	\$ 785,017 35
Notes and Cheques of other Banks . . . . .	139,066 69
Balances due by other Banks, after deducting balances due to other Banks . . . . .	45,781 49
	\$ 969,865 53
Government Securities . . . . .	92,500 00
Notes and Bills Discounted . . . . .	1,894,294 03
Bank Premises and Furniture . . . . .	40,421 82

\$2,997,081 38

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
ON MONDAY, 6TH JULY, 1868.

The Chair was taken at noon by the Hon. William McMaster, the President, at whose request the Cashier read the following

### REPORT

In conformity with the requirements of the charter, your Directors have pleasure in presenting the first Annual Report, accompanied by the following Statement of the result of the business, for the period ending 30th June last—embracing thirteen and one-half months—the Bank having commenced business on the 15th May, 1867 :

The net available profits for the above period	
amount to .....	\$97,783 20
From which has been taken Dividend	
No. 1, paid on January 1st, 1868,	
reckoned at the rate of 8 per cent.	
per annum, from 15th May, 1867..	\$25,129 82
Dividend No. 2, of 4 per cent., paid	
1st July inst.....	32,291 37
Transferred to Rest Account.....	40,000 00
	<hr/>
	97,421 19
Leaving a balance at credit of Profit and Loss	
Account of .....	<u>\$362 01</u>

It will thus be observed that a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum has been paid from the date on which the Bank opened. The preliminary expenses have been liquidated; and after making all the usual deductions, the surplus profits amount to \$40,362.01, of which \$40,000 has been carried to Rest Account, leaving \$362.01 at credit of Profit and Loss Account.

The profits would have been larger, but in view of the distrust occasioned by the causes which produced the panic of last autumn, every consideration of prudence pointed to the necessity of keeping on hand a much larger reserve of gold and legal tender notes than is required under ordinary circumstances.

The business of the Bank, during the first few months of its existence, was necessarily limited, but subsequently expanded in so desirable a manner as to render it advisable—in the interest of the Shareholders—to call up the capital stock much more rapidly than was originally intended.

The calls were met with unusual promptness, as is exhibited by the fact of \$916,359 of the one million dollars authorized being now paid up.

Your Directors have from the commencement acted upon the principle of establishing only a limited number of branches, and of confining the operations of the Institution to a strictly legitimate banking business; and they cannot too strongly urge upon their successors a rigid adherence to this policy, as being not only in the interest of the Shareholders, but ultimately most conducive to that of the country.

The branches have been recently inspected, and your Directors have no hesitation in representing the entire business of the Bank as being in a safe and most healthy condition.

The protracted illness and lamented death of Mr. Greer, the late Cashier, imposed, for a time, unusual duties upon your Directors, which they continued to perform with unre-

mitting attention until the appointment of his successor, Mr. Dallas, whose management has been of a character to satisfy them that their selection was judicious.

WM. MCMASTER,

President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :—

Moved by T. D. McConkey, Esq., M.P., seconded by Noah Barnhart, Esq. :

That the Report of the Directors, now read, be adopted, and printed for distribution among the Shareholders.

Moved by E. H. Rutherford, Esq., seconded by A. T. McCord, Esq. :

That the thanks of the meeting be presented to the President, Vice-President and Directors, for their services during the past year.

Moved by the Hon. J. G. Currie, St. Catharines, seconded by J. H. Mead, Esq. :

That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Cashier, Manager, and other officers of the Bank, for their services during the past year.

Moved by C. Bansley, Esq., seconded by J. H. Seels, Esq. :

That the Directors be allowed \$4 each for each attendance during the past annual period.

Moved by James Norris, Esq., St. Catharines, seconded by V. Cronyn, Esq., London :

That the Directors are hereby authorized to apply to the Parliament of the Dominion for permission to increase the Capital Stock of the Bank to \$2,000,000, should they in their discretion deem it advisable to do so.

A resolution proposing the allowance of a sum to the President for his services during the past year was about to be submitted, but was withdrawn upon his assuring the meeting positively that he would not accept of it.

Moved by R. N. Gooch, Esq., seconded by J. H. Seels, Esq. :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until three o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, and that Messrs. W. J. MacDonell and Charles Robertson do act as scrutineers—the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The following is the Report of the scrutineers :—

To R. J. DALLAS, ESQ., Cashier, Canadian Bank of Commerce. Toronto :

The undersigned scrutineers appointed to take the votes for the election of Directors for the current year, report the election of the following gentlemen, viz. :

HON. WM. MCMASTER

WM. ELLIOT

H. S. HOWLAND

T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER

WM. ALEXANDER

JAMES AUSTIN

JOHN TAYLOR.

(Signed) W. J. MACDONELL, }  
CHARLES ROBERTSON, } Scrutineers.

Toronto, 6th July, 1868.

At a meeting of the newly-lected Board of Directors, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was elected President, and H. S. Howland, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

R. J. DALLAS, Cashier.

Toronto, 6th July, 1868.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	. . . . .	\$2,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	. . . . .	\$1,408,875

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## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	. . . . .	PRESIDENT.
H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.	. . . . .	VICE-PRESIDENT.
WM. ALEXANDER, ESQ.	T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.	
JAMES AUSTIN, ESQ.	JOHN TAYLOR, ESQ.	
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.		

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**R. J. DALLAS, Cashier.**



## BRANCHES

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### ONTARIO—

BARRIE .....	E. S. LALLY .....	Agent.
GUELPH .....	G. W. SANDILANDS .....	Manager.
HAMILTON .....	C. R. MURRAY .....	"
LONDON .....	H. S. STRATHY .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	H. C. BARWICK .....	"
SIMCOE .....	H. GROFF .....	Agent.
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	Manager.

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### BANKERS.

MONTREAL - - - -	THE MOLSONS BANK.
NEW YORK - - - -	THE BANK OF NEW YORK, N.B.A.
LONDON, ENGLAND - -	THE LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH JUNE, 1869.

## LIABILITIES

Capital Stock paid-up.....	\$1,408,875 30	
Circulation .....	\$1,045,236 00	
Deposits .....	2,064,650 75	
		3,109,886 75
Reserve for interest and exchange.....	17,229 24	
Dividends unpaid .....	334 67	
Fourth Dividend, payable first July.....	39,728 58	
		57,292 49
Rest .....	100,000 00	
Balance of Profits carried forward .....	3,475 71	
		103,475 71
		<u>\$4,679,529 95</u>

## ASSETS

Specie and Provincial Notes .....	\$ 972,501 78	
Notes and Cheques of other Banks .....	145,493 74	
Balances due by other Banks, after deducting balances due to other Banks.....	37,581 74	
		\$1,155,577 26
Government Securities .....	143,246 70	
Notes and Bills Discounted .....	3,329,111 24	
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	51,594 75	
		<u>\$4,679,529 95</u>

(Signed) R. J. DALLAS, Cashier.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 30th June, 1869.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
ON TUESDAY, 13TH JULY, 1869.

The Chair was taken at noon by the Hon. William McMaster, the President, at whose request the Cashier read the following

### REPORT

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders their second Annual Report, and they do so in the belief that the accompanying statement of the result of the year's business, ending 30th June, will give general satisfaction.

The net available profits for the past year	
amount to .....	\$141,236 07
To which add balance at credit of Profit and	
Loss Account from last year.....	362 01

\$141,598 08

From which have been taken :—

Dividend No. 3, paid 1st January, 1869.	\$38,393 79
Dividend No. 4, paid 2nd July inst...	39,728 58
Transferred to Rest Account .....	60,000 00
	<u>\$138,122 37</u>

Leaving a balance at credit of Profit and Loss

Account of .....	<u>\$3,475 71</u>
------------------	-------------------

It will be seen that after paying a dividend of eight per cent. for the year, the surplus profits amounted to \$63,475.71, of which \$60,000 has been carried to Rest Account, making that fund \$100,000, and the remaining \$3,475.71 is at the credit of Profit and Loss Account.

The sound business principle of writing off annually all debts that appear bad, has been scrupulously observed. The branches have been recently inspected—the assets were thoroughly examined and the Directors regard every item therein as being perfectly good.

Numerous applications for the establishing of branches in various sections of the Province were received during the year, but none of them were entertained except those from Woodstock and Simcoe, where the business of the Gore Bank was offered to the Directors under circumstances which, in their judgment, rendered its acceptance not only expedient but desirable, in the interest of the Bank.

The Directors, after mature consideration, came to the conclusion that it was advisable to increase the capital of the Bank from one million to two millions of dollars, and acting on the discretion given to them by the Shareholders at last meeting, they applied to Parliament for the necessary power to make the increase. An Act for this purpose was carried through the Legislature, and is now on the Statute Book.

The decision to extend the capital having been arrived at, the Directors deemed it advisable to anticipate a portion of the proposed new stock by the issue of Provisional Receipts to those who desired to obtain it. \$409,200 was taken up in this way and paid in full. \$190,800 has been allotted to those of the original proprietors who responded to a circular inviting them to send in applications.

These arrangements had the effect, not only of furnishing means to meet the demands of a constantly increasing business, but also prevented the old stock from being materially affected in price, which is usually the case when

a large amount of new shares has to be placed on the market.

A considerable portion of the remaining stock could have been readily disposed of to applicants other than the present Shareholders, but in view of the valuable business established, and the fact that a reserve of \$100,000 has accumulated in two years, the Directors are of opinion that the \$400,000 stock still on hand, which it may not be advisable to dispose of for some time, should be held at a premium.

WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :—

Moved by Joseph McKay, Esq., of Montreal, seconded by Æmilius Irving, Esq., of Hamilton :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for distribution among the Shareholders.

Moved by T. D. McConkey, Esq., M.P., of Barrie, seconded by D. Buchan, Esq., of Toronto :

That the By-laws made and enacted by the Board of Directors, numbering from one to twenty-two, and which have been now read by the Cashier, be confirmed ; and that By-law No. 6, relating to the remuneration of the Directors, be applied retrospectively to the past year.

Moved by Hon. J. G. Currie, of St. Catharines, seconded by James Campbell, Esq., of Toronto :

That the Directors be authorized to apply to the Dominion Parliament at its next session for an extension of the charter of the Bank, with such alterations as experience, the action of the other Banks, and possible Government legislation on the subject of Banking, may render desirable.

Moved by T. D. McConkey, Esq., and seconded by E. H. Rutherford, Esq., of Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the

President, Vice-President and Directors, for their services during the past year.

Moved by A. T. McCord, Esq., Toronto, seconded by W. J. MacDonell, Esq., Toronto :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until 3 o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, and that Messrs. James Browne and Henry Pellatt do act as scrutineers—the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The following is the Report of the scrutineers :—

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year, viz. :

HON. WM. MCMASTER	JAMES AUSTIN, ESQ.	
H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.	WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.	
WM. ALEXANDER, ESQ.	T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.	
	JOHN TAYLOR, ESQ.	
(Signed)	JAS. BROWNE,	} Scrutineers.
	HENRY PELLATT,	

Toronto, 13th July, 1869.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was elected President, and H. S. Howland, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

R. J. DALLAS, Cashier.

Toronto, 13th July, 1869.





CLARESHOLM, ALTA.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

AL. AUTHORIZED	\$4,000,000
AL. PAID-UP	\$2,036,765

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	PRESIDENT.
H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.,	VICE-PRESIDENT.
WM. ALEXANDER, ESQ.	THOS. C. STREET, ESQ., M.P.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.	JOHN TAYLOR, ESQ.
T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.	

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H. S. STRATHY, Cashier.



## BRANCHES

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### ONTARIO—

BARRIE .....	E. S. LALLY .....	Agent.
GALT .....	J. DAVIDSON .....	Manager.
GOLDERICH .....	A. W. ROSS .....	Agent.
GUELPH .....	G. W. SANDILANDS .....	Manager.
HAMILTON .....	C. R. MURRAY .....	"
LONDON .....	W. SIMPSON .....	"
PETERBORO .....	J. A. HALL .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	H. C. BARWICK .....	"
SARNIA (Open about 1st Aug.) .....	F. W. HOLMESTED .....	"
SIMCOE .....	H. GROFF .....	Agent.
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	Manager.

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### BANKERS:

MONTREAL . . . . .	THE MOLSONS BANK.
NEW YORK . . . . .	THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.
LONDON, ENGLAND . . . . .	THE LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH JUNE, 1870.

## LIABILITIES

Capital Stock paid-up .....	\$2,036,765 00
Circulation.....	\$1,974,244 00
Deposits .....	3,442,423 69
	5,416,667 69
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Dis-	
counts .....	35,482 51
Reserve for interest and exchange.....	8,064 29
Dividends unpaid .....	3,706 88
Sixth Dividend, payable second July .....	80,759 34
	128,013 02
Rest.....	250,000 00
Balance of Profits carried forward.....	13,235 92
	263,235 92
	<u>\$7,844,681 63</u>

## ASSETS

Specie and Provincial Notes .....	\$1,262,148 64
Notes and Cheques of other Banks .....	143,462 26
Balances due by other Banks, after deducting	
Balances due to other Banks .....	918,523 53
	<u>\$2,324,134 43</u>
Government Securities.....	242,854 30
Notes and Bills Discounted .....	5,132,380 48
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	88,271 42
Other Assets not included under foregoing heads.....	57,041 00
	<u>\$7,844,681 63</u>

(Signed) H. S. STRATHY, Cashier.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 30th June, 1870.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
ON TUESDAY, 12TH JULY, 1870.

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The Chair was taken at noon by the President, the Hon. William McMaster, whereupon it was moved by George Snider, Esq., M.P., of Owen Sound, seconded by James Young, Esq., of Toronto, that the Cashier, H. S. Strathy, Esq., be requested to act as Secretary.

The Secretary then read the following

## REPORT

In conformity with the requirements of the Charter, the Directors submit this their third Annual Report, with a Statement of the affairs of the Bank, showing the result of the year's business, ending 30th June, which they flatter themselves cannot be otherwise than satisfactory to the Shareholders.

The net available profits of the year amount to..\$336,536 89  
To which add balance at credit of Profit and

Loss Account from last year..... 3,475 71

\$340,012 60

From which has been taken :—

Dividend No. 5, of four per cent., payable 2nd January last .....	\$60,534 83
Dividend No. 6, of four per cent., payable 2nd July instant .....	80,759 34
Transferred to Rest Account .....	150,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts .....	35,482 51
	<u>\$326,776 68</u>

Leaving a balance at credit of Profit and Loss

Account of .....

\$13,235 92

It will be observed that after providing out of the profits of the year a dividend of eight per cent., and appropriating \$35,482.51 as a rebate of interest on notes under discount, \$150,000 has been carried to Rest Account, making that fund \$250,000, and the remaining \$13,235.92 is at the credit of Profit and Loss Account.

Besides the usual inspection of the entire assets and accounts of the Bank by an officer appointed for that purpose, a personal examination of all the branches has been recently made by the President and Vice-President.

The Directors are pleased to report that the losses during the last twelve months have been small, and in accordance with the usual practice of the Bank, they have been written off, so that every item embraced in the assets may be regarded as perfectly good.

The agreement entered into for the amalgamation of the Gore Bank and The Canadian Bank of Commerce has been confirmed by an Act passed for that purpose by the Dominion Parliament. The greater part of the assets of the Gore Bank is already realized. That portion of them which consisted of real estate is nearly all disposed of and rendered productive, except the Banking premises in Hamilton, which are required for the use of the institution in conducting our business there



The conditions of the agreement were faithfully observed by the contracting parties, and the results have fully borne out the careful calculations made by your Directors.

The Capital authorized by the Amended Charter is \$4,000,000, of which \$2,036,765 has been paid up, but the power to increase being permissive, need not be used unless additional means can be profitably employed. The Board have determined to occupy a few new points in Ontario, for which the Bank is in a position to furnish the necessary funds; but in view of the expansion that usually takes place in the autumn, the Directors recommend their successors to offer \$300,000 new stock to the Shareholders, on terms which will give them a substantial advantage, and at the same time contribute to increase the reserve; the premium to be paid when the allotment is made on the 1st September, and the Stock called in by instalments, except in the case of those who may desire to pay a considerable portion at once, with whom special arrangements can be made.

The large number of produce and other transactions passing through the Bank, which terminate in Montreal, has for some time past pointed to the necessity of opening a Branch there, for the protection of our business, and the Directors having decided to do so, an office has been engaged and the services of an experienced Manager secured for that point.

In addition to the foregoing simple statement of facts, the Directors would mention that from the commencement of the Bank they have kept two objects steadily in view,—the first of which has been to make the stock a perfectly safe and reasonably profitable investment for the Shareholders; the second, to do all that was possible, consistently with that consideration, to aid in moving the crops and facilitating the legitimate business of the country.

At the last session of the Dominion Parliament, an Act was passed respecting "Banks and Banking," whereby the Shareholders may, at a general meeting called for the pur-

pose, authorize an application to the Minister of Finance for an extension of their Charter embodying the provisions of said Act. They have therefore been specially summoned to attend the present annual meeting. A resolution providing for such extension will be submitted, and as the Directors believe that a safe and profitable business can be conducted under the new Banking Law, they recommend its acceptance.

The Directors have pleasure in bearing testimony to the zeal and ability with which the Cashier, Managers, and other officers of the Bank have discharged their respective duties. All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :—

Moved by Hon. D. L. MacPherson, of Toronto, seconded by Thomas C. Street, Esq., M.P., of Chippawa :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for distribution among the Shareholders.

Moved by Hon. J. G. Currie, of St. Catharines, seconded by James Norris, Esq., of the same place :

That the Directors be, and they are hereby authorized to notify the Minister of Finance of their intention to apply for an extension or modification of the Charter of this Bank, so as to make it conform with the provisions of the Act recently passed by the Dominion Parliament respecting Banks and Banking.

Moved by Benjamin Lyman, Esq., of Montreal, seconded by E. H. Rutherford, Esq., of Toronto :

That the thanks of the Shareholders are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and Board of Directors, for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year

Moved by Amilius Irving, Esq., of Hamilton, seconded by David Clark, Esq., of Simcoe :

That the thanks of the Shareholders be also tendered to the Cashier and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their duties referred to in the Report now read.

Moved by V. Cronyn, Esq., of London, seconded by — Baxter, Esq., of Hamilton :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until 3 o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, and that Messrs. James Browne and Henry Pellatt do act as scrutineers, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report:—

H. S. STRATHY, ESQ., Cashier :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the General Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER

WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.

H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.

JOHN TAYLOR, ESQ.

T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER, ESQ.

THOMAS C. STREET, ESQ., M.P.

JAMES BROWNE, }

HENRY PELLATT, } Scrutineers.

Toronto, July 12th, 1870.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Henry S. Howland, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

H. S. STRATHY, Cashier.

Toronto, 12th July, 1870.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	.	.	.	.	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED	.	.	.	.	\$3,200,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	.	.	.	.	\$3,193,375

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	PRESIDENT.
H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.,	VICE-PRESIDENT.
F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ., M.P.P.	T. C. STREET, ESQ., M.P.
WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.	GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.	ROBERT WILKES, ESQ.

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H. S. STRATHY, Cashier.



## BRANCHES

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### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... J. G. HARPER ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

BARRIE .....	J. H. PLUMMER .....	Manager.
COLLINGWOOD .....	JOHN MCMASTER .....	"
DUNDAS .....	C. S. RUMSEY .....	"
GALT .....	G. H. PATTERSON .....	"
GODERICH .....	A. M. ROSS .....	"
GUELPH .....	G. W. SANDILANDS .....	"
HAMILTON .....	C. R. MURRAY .....	"
LONDON .....	W. SIMPSON .....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	T. Y. GREET .....	"
PETERBORO .....	J. A. HALL .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	H. C. BARWICK .....	"
SARNIA .....	F. W. HOLMESTED .....	"
SIMCOE .....	H. GROFF .....	"
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	"

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### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.
LONDON, ENGLAND	THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH JUNE, 1871.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Circulation .....	\$ 2,359,213 00
Deposits bearing interest .....	2,905,896 72
Deposits not bearing interest .....	1,767,307 97

\$7,032,417 69

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$3,193,375 00
Reserve .....	600 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts .....	45,482 51
Reserve for interest on deposit receipts .....	19,115 96
Dividends unpaid .....	1,138 08
Dividend No. 8, payable 1st July .....	127,116 10
	3,986,227 65
	<u>\$11,018,645 34</u>

## ASSETS

Specie and Provincial Notes .....	\$1,528,870 81
Notes and Cheques of other Banks .....	469,381 86
Balances due by other Banks, after deducting Balances due to other Banks .....	40,208 43
Immediately available .....	\$2,038,461 10
Government Debentures .....	323,240 36
Notes and Bills Discounted .....	8,522,300 53
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	114,439 51
Other Assets not included under foregoing head .....	20,203 1
	<u>\$11,018,645 34</u>

(Signed) H. S. STRATHY, Cashier

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 30th June, 1871.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

### OF THE

## FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
ON TUESDAY, 11TH JULY, 1871.

The Chair was taken at noon by the President, the Hon. William McMaster, and upon motion of David Thompson, Esq., M.P., of Indiana, seconded by James Young, Esq., of Toronto, the Cashier, H. S. Strathy, Esq., was requested to act as Secretary.

The Secretary then read the following

## REPORT.

In again meeting the Shareholders and laying before them the result of last year's business, as submitted in the accompanying statement, the Directors do so in the belief that it will prove satisfactory to the proprietary.

The net profits of the year, including the premium realized on stock, amount to.....	\$572,130 49
To which add balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account from last year.....	13,235 92
	<hr/>
	\$585,366 41

From this deduct :—

Dividend No. 7, of four per cent., payable 2nd January last .....	\$ 92,995 00
Dividend No. 8, of four per cent., payable 1st July instant.....	127,116 10
Transferred to Rest Account .....	350,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts (which with \$35,482.51 previously at credit of that fund, makes it now \$45,482.51).....	10,000 00
	<hr/> \$580,111 10

Leaving a balance at credit of Profit and Loss

Account .....	<hr/> \$5,255 31
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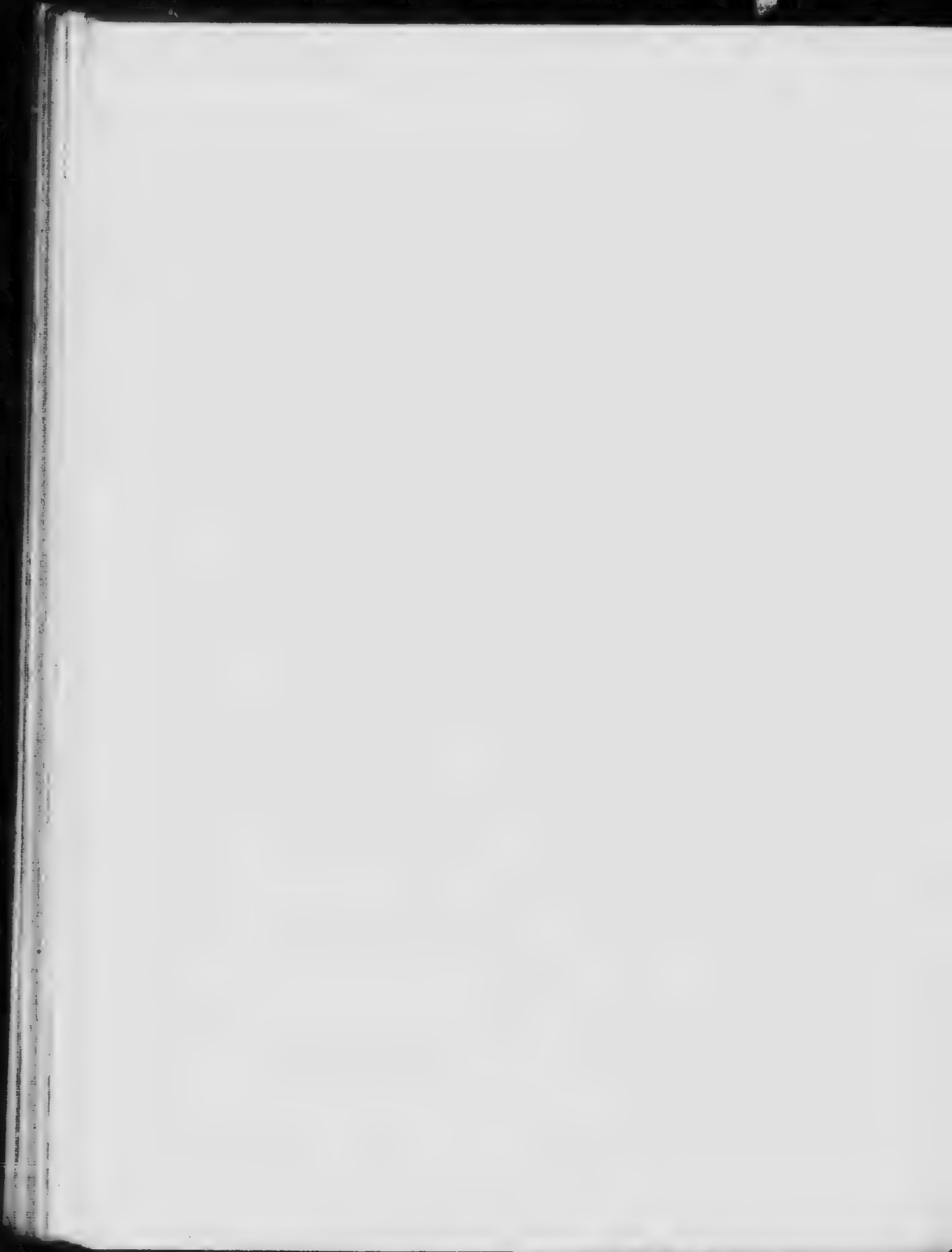
The bad and doubtful debts throughout the year, ascertained on a personal examination of the various offices by the President and Vice-President, were found to be small, and, in accordance with the usual practice of the Bank, they have been written off ; and, after providing for the two half-yearly dividends of four per cent. each, as well as for the usual reserve of interest on Current Bills and Deposits, the sum of \$350,000 has been carried to the Rest, making that fund \$600,000, and the remaining \$5,255.31 is at the credit of Profit and Loss.

The operations of the Bank have been confined to business of a strictly commercial character ; the scrupulous observance of this principle enabled the Directors to facilitate legitimate business, and, as a natural consequence, the Bank has participated in the general prosperity of the country.

The allotment of Stock, recommended in last year's Report, having been found inadequate to meet the demands of a constantly increasing business, the Board deemed it advisable to dispose of a further amount at current rates, which not only furnished the required means, but also contributed



COBALT, ONT.



to increase the Rest, in which fund all the Shareholders equally participate.

There still remains \$800,000 Stock to be disposed of, and, while recommending the allotment of this to the Shareholders on an early day, at a moderate premium, the Directors would remind them that the amount will not be more than sufficient to meet the ordinary expansion that takes place at stated periods in the present business. The Directors, therefore, submit for the consideration of the Shareholders whether it might not be advisable to avail themselves of the power with which the new Act invests them to increase the capital to a moderate extent, leaving it to the discretion of the Board to allot the Stock when it is required, and can be made conducive to the interests of the Bank.

The general Act on Banks and Banking, passed in 1870, which was amended and improved by the Dominion Parliament last session, may now be regarded as the uniform charter of all the Banks; the restrictions it imposes materially change the former system, but they furnish increased security to the public, and, although the circulation is limited by the Act, a profitable business can still be conducted under its provisions.

A vacancy was created at the Board by the lamented death of Mr. Taylor, who was a most valuable Director of the Bank from its commencement. The large interest the firm with which he was connected hold in the Bank pointed to his brother, Mr. George Taylor, as a suitable successor, and the Board unanimously elected him to fill the position.

The Directors have pleasure in stating that the Cashier, Managers, Inspector, and other officers of the Bank continue to discharge their respective duties to the entire satisfaction of the Board.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. MCMASTER,

President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously:—

Moved by William Cawtura, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by Larratt W. Smith, Esq., of the same place:

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for distribution among the Shareholders.

Moved by E. H. Rutherford, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by T. D. McConkey, Esq., M.P., of Barrie:

That the Shareholders do hereby authorize the increase of the Capital Stock of this Bank by the sum of \$2,000,000, in addition to the \$4,000,000 already authorized by the special Acts, making the total capital \$6,000,000.

Moved by Capt. Norris, of St. Catharines, seconded by the Hon. J. G. Currie, M.P.P., of the same place:

That the total allotments to be made during the current year under the foregoing resolution, and the special Acts therein referred to, shall be in the proportion of one share to two of the present subscribed capital of \$3,200,000.

Moved by D. Thompson, Esq., M.P., of Indiana, seconded by J. B. Osborne, Esq., of Beamsville:

That the thanks of the Shareholders are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and Board of Directors, for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by Dalton McCarthy, Esq., of Barrie, seconded by Thomas W. Fair, Esq., of Toronto:

That the thanks of the Shareholders be also tendered to the Cashier and other officials of the Bank, for the satisfactory discharge of their duties referred to in the Report now read.

The Secretary having read the draft of certain by-laws, it was

Moved by Peter Paterson, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by W. H. Stanton, Esq., of the same place:

That the by-laws now read by the Secretary, numbered one to twenty-eight, be and are hereby declared to be the

By-Laws of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, enacted under provisions of the Statute 34 Vic., chap. 5, entitled "An Act relating to Banks and Banking."

Moved by V. Cronyn, Esq., of London, seconded by John Dodgson, Esq., of Toronto:

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until 3 o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, and that Messrs. James Browne and Henry Pellatt do act as scrutineers, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report:

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 11th, 1871.

H. S. STRATHY, ESQ., Cashier:

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year:

F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ., M.P.P.	T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.
WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.	T. C. STREET, ESQ., M.P.
H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.	GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
HON. WM. MCMASTER	ROBERT WILKES, ESQ.

JAMES BROWNE, } Scrutineers.  
HENRY PELLATT, }

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Henry S. Howland, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

H. S. STRATHY, Cashier.

Toronto, 11th July, 1871.





# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	- . . .	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED	- . . .	\$4,800,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	- . . .	\$4,748,334

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	-	PRESIDENT.
H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.,	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ., M.P.P.	-	T. C. STREET, ESQ., M.P.
WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.	-	GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.	-	ROBERT WILKES, ESQ.

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H. S. STRATHY, Cashier.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH JUNE, 1872.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes in circulation .....	\$2,516,742 00
Government Deposits payable on demand .....	70,494 42
Other Deposits payable on demand .....	4,520,923 15
Government Deposits payable after notice or on a fixed day .....	410,000 00
Other Deposits payable after notice or on a fixed day .....	1,155,741 71
Due to other Banks in Canada .....	6,199 17
Due to other Banks or Agents not in Canada .....	253,690 34
	<hr/>
	\$8,933,790 79

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$4,748,334 00
Rest .....	1,000,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Dis-	
counts .....	55,604 00
Reserve for interest on deposit receipts .....	14,063 76
Dividends unpaid .....	534 90
Dividend No. 10, payable 1st July .....	187,700 74
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried	
forward to next half year .....	7,114 33
	<hr/>
	6,013,351 73
	<hr/>
	14,947,142 52

# ASSETS

Specie.....	\$ 737,157 98
Provincial or Dominion Notes.....	530,380 90
Notes and Cheques on other Banks.....	469,692 17
Balances due from other Banks in Canada..	135,282 99
Balances due from other Banks or Agents not in Canada.....	1,004,362 29
Government Debentures or Stock.....	250,000 00
Immediately available.....	\$ 3,129,876
Loans to the Governments of the Dominion.	
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Current Accounts to Corporations.....	63,564 21
Notes and Bills Discounted and Current....	11,521,668 51
Notes and Bills Discounted, Overdue and not specially Secured.....	36,603 04
Overdue Debts secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of, or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities	14,059 74
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than the Bank premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	15,702 27
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	154,062 27
Other Assets not included under the fore- going heads.....	14,606 15
	<u>\$14,947,142 52</u>

(Signed) H. S. STRATHY, Cashier.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 30th June, 1872.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC

MONTREAL.....W. SIMPSON.....Manager.

### ONTARIO—

BARRIE.....WM. MANSON.....Int. Manager.  
 BRANTFORD.....J. H. PLUMMER.....Manager.  
 CHATHAM.....W. S. IRELAND....."  
 COLLINGWOOD.....JOHN MCMASTER..."  
 DUNDAS.....C. S. RUMSEY....."  
 GALT.....G. H. PATTERSON..."  
 GODERICH.....A. M. ROSS....."  
 GUELPH.....G. W. SANDILANDS..."  
 HAMILTON.....C. R. MURRAY....."  
 LONDON.....E. W. SYER....."  
 ORANGEVILLE.....T. Y. GREET....."  
 PETERBORO.....J. A. HALL....."  
 ST. CATHARINES.....H. C. BARWICK....."  
 SARNIA.....F. W. HOLMESTED..."  
 SIMCOE.....H. GROFF....."  
 STRATHROY.....J. S. SMALL....."  
 WOODSTOCK.....W. A. SAMPSON....."

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK.....{ J. G. HARPER..... } Agents.  
                                   J. H. GOADBY..... }

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK.....THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.  
 LONDON, ENGLAND.....THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,

ON TUESDAY, 9TH JULY, 1872.

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The chair was taken at noon by the President, the Hon. William McMaster, and upon motion of James Norris, Esq., of St. Catharines, seconded by W. H. Stanton, Esq., of Toronto, the Cashier, H. S. Strathy, Esq., was requested to act as Secretary.

The Secretary then read the following

### REPORT.

In laying before the Shareholders the result of the year's business, ending 30th June, 1872, the Directors are pleased at being in a position to report that the Bank has continued to do a profitable business. After deducting the charges for management, fully providing for all doubtful debts—the bad having been entirely written off—

The net profits of the year, including the prem-

ium realized on Stock, amount to .....\$765,513 47

To which add balance at credit of Profit and

Loss Account carried over from last year... 5,255 31

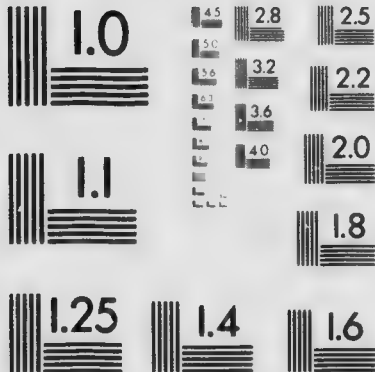
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\$770,768 78



# MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

(ANSI and ISO TEST CHART No. 2)



From this deduct:—

Dividend No. 9, of four per cent., paid 1st January.....	\$165,832 22
Dividend No. 10, of four per cent., payable 1st July .....	187,700 74
Transferred to Rest Account.....	400,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts..	10,121 49
	<hr/> \$763,654 45
Leaving a balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account .....	<hr/> \$7,114 33

It will be observed from the accompanying statement that besides providing for two half-yearly dividends of four per cent. each, appropriating the amount required to cover accrued interest on deposits, adding \$10,121.49 to the reserve of interest on current bills, which is now \$55,604, the sum of \$400,000 has been carried to Rest Account, increasing that fund to one million of dollars, and the remaining \$7,114.33 is at the credit of Profit and Loss Account.

A thorough inspection has been made of all the branches by an officer specially appointed for the purpose, whose frequent and minute reports enable the Directors to exercise that control over the business of each branch which is so essential to its being conducted with prudence and safety.

The resolution passed by the Shareholders at their last annual meeting providing that the allotments of stock during the current year should be in the proportion of one share to two on the then subscribed capital, has been strictly adhered to, thus limiting the issue to \$1,600,000; the time given for payment has not yet expired, but a large portion of the calls having been anticipated, the whole amount is now paid up except \$51,666.



There still remains \$1,200,000 stock unappropriated, and the Directors recommend their successors to consider whether it may not be advisable to allot this to the Shareholders on an early day at a moderate premium.

Since the business of the Bank commenced to assume large proportions, the inconvenience of not being directly represented in New York was frequently felt. The Directors, therefore, after mature consideration, determined to open an agency there, which, besides enabling the Bank more effectually to control and look after shipments of produce on which advances are made, greatly facilitates transactions in exchange.

In taking a retrospective view of the affairs of the institution, the Directors are reminded that a period of five years has elapsed since it commenced operations, during which time the preliminary expenses and other charges connected with the opening of branches—which will not again be incurred—have all been covered; a uniform dividend of eight per cent. paid, and a Rest of one million dollars accumulated, which is equal to the capital originally authorized by the Legislature. In view of these circumstances, in connection with the fact that a large healthy business has been established, the Directors may be allowed to congratulate the Shareholders on the present position and future prospects of the Bank.

The Directors are pleased to record their appreciation of the zeal and ability with which the Cashier, Assistant Cashier, Inspector, Managers, and other officers of the Bank have discharged their respective duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :—

Moved by the Hon. D. L. Macpherson, of Toronto, seconded by Benj. Lyman, Esq., of Montreal :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for distribution among the Shareholders.

Moved by the Hon. J. G. Currie, M.P.P., of St. Catharines, seconded by T. D. McConkey, Esq., M.P., of Barrie :

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and Board of Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by James Norris, Esq., of St. Catharines, seconded by V. Cronyn, Esq., of London :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the Cashier and other officials of the Bank for their attention to duty during the past year.

Moved by F. Mackelcan, Esq., of Hamilton, seconded by E. H. Rutherford, Esq., of Toronto :

That the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until 3 o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, and that Messrs. James Browne and Henry Pellatt do act as scrutineers, the poll to be closed whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following report :—

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 9th, 1872.

H. S. STRATHY, ESQ., Cashier :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :

HON. WM. MCMASTER

H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.

F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ., M.P.

WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.

T. C. STREET, ESQ., M.P.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

ROBERT WILKES, ESQ.

JAMES BROWNE, } Scrutineers.  
HENRY PELLATT, }

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Henry S. Howland, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

H. S. STRATHY, Cashier.

Toronto, 9th July, 1872.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	- - -	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED	- - -	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	- - -	\$5,875,273

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## DIRECTORS:

HON. WILLIAM McMASTER,	-	PRESIDENT.
H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.,	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ., M.P.P.	-	T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.	-	GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.	-	ROBERT WILKES, ESQ., M.P.

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W. N. ANDERSON, Cashier.

## GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 28TH JUNE, 1873.

### LIABILITIES

#### *To the Public.*

Notes in circulation .....	\$2,519,884 00
Government Deposits payable on demand .....	31,986 05
Other Deposits payable on demand .....	3,325,583 36
Government Deposits payable after notice, or on a fixed day .....	677,000 00
Other Deposits payable after notice, or on a fixed day.....	2,038,534 35
Due to other Banks in Canada.....	73,478 99
Due to other Banks or Agents not in Canada.....	268,530 84
Liabilities not included under the foregoing heads.....	

\$8,934,997 59

#### *To the Shareholders.*

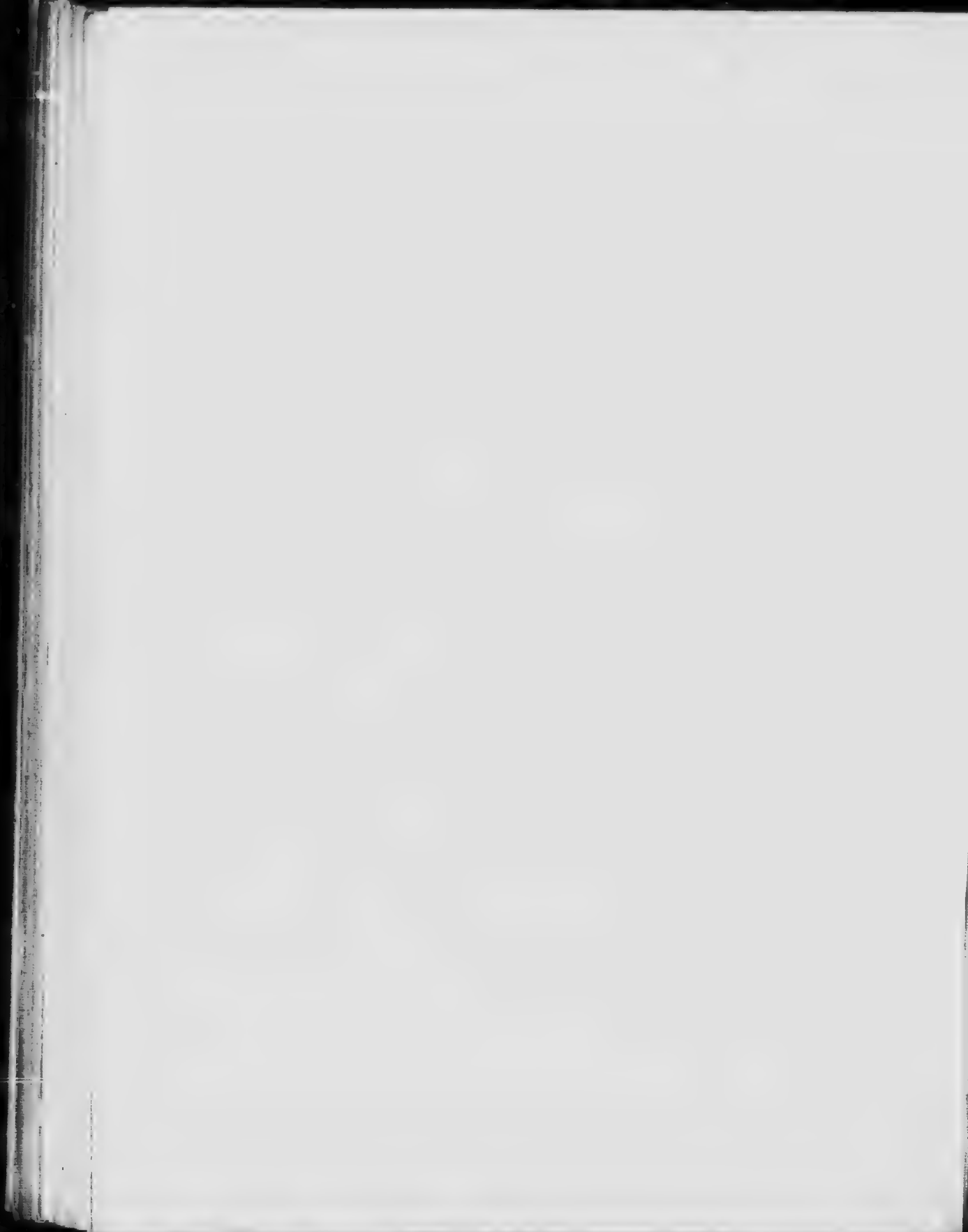
Capital paid-up .....	\$5,875,273 00
Reserve .....	1,500,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current	
Discounts .....	65,604 00
Reserve for interest on deposit receipts.....	30,130 49
Dividends unpaid .....	2,344 84
Dividend No. 12, payable 1st July .....	229,063 03
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried	
forward to the next half year .....	20,142 40

7,722,557 76

\$16,657,555 35



COLLINGWOOD, ONT.





# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 992,727 56
Provincial or Dominion Notes .....	666,983 32
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks .....	648,504 12
Balances due from other Banks in Canada ...	265,382 39
Balances due from other Banks or Agents not in Canada.....	246,413 41
Government Debentures or Stock.. .....	250,000 00
Immediately available.....	\$3,070,010 80
Loans to the Governments : Of the Dominion Of the Provinces	
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Current Ac- counts to Corporations .....	351,113 05
Notes and Bills Discounted and Current.....	12,976,394 36
Notes and Bills Discounted, Overdue and not specially Secured .....	55,162 62
Overdue Debts secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of, or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities ...	13,688 14
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank .....	14,832 72
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	162,747 51
Other Assets not included under the foregoing heads.....	13,606 15
	<u>\$16,657,555 35</u>

W. N. ANDERSON, Cashier.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 28th June, 1873.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL.....W. SIMPSON .....Manager.

### ONTARIO—

BARRIE .....	R. C. JENNINGS .....	Manager.
BRANTFORD.....	J. H. PLUMMER.....	"
CHATHAM .....	W. S. IRELAND .....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	JOHN MCMASTER.....	"
DUNDAS .....	C. S. RUMSEY .....	"
GALT.....	G. H. PATTERSON .....	"
GODERICH.....	A. M. ROSS.....	"
GUELPH.....	G. W. SANDILANDS .....	"
HAMILTON.....	C. R. MURRAY.....	"
LONDON .....	E. W. SYER.....	"
ORANGEVILLE.....	T. Y. GREET.....	"
PETERBORO.....	R. W. SMYLIE .....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	H. C. BARWICK.....	"
SARNIA .....	F. W. HOLMESTED.....	"
SIMCOE.....	H. GROFF .....	"
STRATHROY.....	J. S. SMALL.....	"
THOROLD .....	D. S. KEDDIE.....	Agent.
TRENTON.....	W. SMITH .....	Manager.
WOODSTOCK .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK.....	J. G. HARPER..... J. H. GOADBY .....	} Agents.
	B. E. WALKER .....	

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	-	THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.
LONDON, ENGLAND		THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

### OF THE

## SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,

ON TUESDAY, 8TH JULY, 1873.

The chair was taken at noon by the President, the Hon. William McMaster, and upon motion of V. Cronyn, Esq., of London, seconded by James Young, Esq., of Toronto, the Cashier, W. N. Anderson, Esq., was requested to act as Secretary. The Secretary then read the following

## REPORT.

In presenting to the Shareholders the results of the year's business, it affords the Directors pleasure to be able to state that the affairs of the Bank are in a healthy and prosperous condition. After covering the charges for management, and making ample provision for bad and doubtful debts,

The net profits of the year, including the premium	
on new Stock, amount to.....	\$969,159 09
To which add balance at credit of Profit and	
Loss Account carried over from last year ...	7,114 33
	<hr/>
	\$976,273 42

From this has to be deducted :—

Dividend No. 11, of four per cent., payable 1st January .....	\$217,067 99
Dividend No. 12, of four per cent., payable 1st July .....	229,063 03
Transferred to Rest Account.....	500,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on current discounts ...	10,000 00
	<u>\$956,131 02</u>

Leaving a balance at credit of Profit and Loss

Account of.....	<u>\$20,142 40</u>
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From the accompanying statement it will be seen that besides providing for two half-yearly dividends of four per cent. each, appropriating \$30,130.49 for accrued interest on deposits, and adding \$10,000 to the Reserve of interest on current bills,—which is now \$65,604—the sum of \$500,000 has been carried to Rest Account, making that fund \$1,500,000, and the balance of \$20,142.40 remains at the credit of Profit and Loss Account.

In view of the net surplus earnings of the year being over \$350,000 exclusive of the premiums on new Stock, the Shareholders might naturally look for an increased dividend, but your Directors entertain a very strong opinion as to the value of a large Rest, placing, as it does, a Bank beyond the possibility of being affected by ordinary contingencies, so that, while the accumulated Rest is in excess of the amount required by law before the dividend can exceed eight per cent., they still regard it a wise policy not to pay a higher rate until that fund (which is now twenty-five and one-half per cent. upon the paid-up Stock) be further increased.

The usual thorough inspection of the branches has been made, and the reports on the business of each have had the constant attention of the Directors.

The unsubscribed portion of the authorized capital of

the Bank, amounting to \$1,200,000, was allotted to the Shareholders on the 31st of July last, and has all been paid up except \$124,727.

Since our last annual meeting, the Bank, by the lamented death of T. C. Street, Esq., has lost one of its most influential friends. His high social and financial position throughout the Dominion, together with his cordial co-operation in everything affecting the best interests of the Shareholders, rendered him a most valuable Director, and his demise has been a source of deep regret to every member of the Board.

The vacancy thus created in the Direction was filled by the appointment of James Michie, Esq.

Mr. H. S. Strathy having retired from the service of the Bank to enter into business, Mr. W. N. Anderson, the Inspector, was appointed to succeed him as Cashier, and the Directors have every reason to be pleased with the ability with which he discharges the duties of the position.

The Directors have pleasure in stating that the Assistant Cashier, Managers, Agents, and other officers of the Bank, continue to perform their duties in a satisfactory manner.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :—

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by the Hon. George Alexander, of Woodstock, seconded by J. K. Kerr, Esq., of Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors, for the care and attention they have bestowed upon the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by William Cawthra, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by John J. Arnton, Esq., of Montreal :

That the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the Cashier and other officers of the Bank for the zeal with which they have discharged their respective duties during the year.

Moved by Benjamin Lyman, Esq., of Montreal, seconded by James Norris, Esq., of St. Catharines :

That the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until 3 o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, and that Messrs. H. Pellatt and James Browne do act as scrutineers,—the poll to be closed whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :—

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

Toronto, 8th July, 1873.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., Cashier :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :—

HON. WM. MCMASTER

H. S. HOWLAND, ESQ.

F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ., M.P.P.

WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.

JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.

T. SUTHERLAND STAYNER, ESQ.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

ROBERT WILKES, ESQ., M.P.

JAMES BROWNE, }  
HENRY PELLATT, } Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors held subsequently, the Hon. William McMaster was re-elected President, and Henry S. Howland, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON, Cashier.

Toronto, 8th July, 1873.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000

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## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	-	PRESIDENT.
ROBERT WILKES, ESQ., M.P.,	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.		ADAM HOPE, ESQ.
F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ.		JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.
WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.		T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.		

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W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

JOHN C. KEMP, Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1874.

## LIABILITIES.

### *To the Public.*

Notes in circulation.....	\$ 2,223,350 00
Dominion Government Deposits, payable on demand.....	287,110 68
Dominion Government Deposits, payable after notice or on a fixed day .....	50,000 00
Provincial Government Deposits, payable on demand.....	16,905 72
Provincial Government Deposits, payable after notice or on a fixed day.....	500,000 00
Other Deposits payable on demand .....	3,703,812 25
Other Deposits payable after notice or on a fixed day .....	2,851,345 87
Lo to other Banks in Canada .....	48,398 07
Due to other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom...	361,800 10
	<hr/>
	\$10,042,622 69

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up.....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest .....	1,800,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Dis- counts.....	75,604 00
Reserve for interest on Deposit Receipts....	32,704 60
Dividends unpaid.....	1,559 27
Dividend No. 14, payable 2nd July.....	300,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year.....	7,373 49
	<hr/>
	8,217,241 36
	<hr/>
	\$18,259,864 05



# ASSETS.

Specie .....	\$ 914,887 77
Dominion Notes.....	1,467,199 06
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks....	528,197 26
Balances due from other Banks in Canada...	78,297 29
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in Foreign countries.....	310,918 88
Government Debentures or Stock .....	250,000 00
Immediately available.....	\$3,549,500 26
Loans, Discounts or Advances for which shares of the Capital Stock of any other Bank are held as collateral security.....	386,100 00
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Bonds and Debentures.....	5,700 00
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Current Account to Corporations.....	819,996 98
Notes and Bills Discounted and Current....	13,128,131 52
Notes and Bills Discounted, Overdue and not specially Secured.....	87,952 36
Overdue Debts Secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities...	72,805 80
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	10,262 00
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	185,808 48
Other Assets not included under the fore- going heads.....	15
	<u>\$18,259,864 05</u>

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 30th June, 1874.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL.....W. SIMPSON .....Manager.

### ONTARIO—

BARRIE .....	R. C. JENNINGS .....	Manager.
BRANTFORD .....	JAMES POLLOCK .....	"
CHATHAM.....	W. S. IRELAND .....	"
COLLINGWOOD.....	JOHN MCMASTER .....	"
DUNDAS .....	C. S. RUMSEY .....	"
GALT .....	G. H. PATTERSON .....	"
GODERICH .....	A. M. ROSS.....	"
GUELPH .....	G. W. SANDLANDS.....	"
HAMILTON.....	C. R. MURRAY.....	"
LONDON .....	E. W. SYER .....	"
LUCAN.....	D. S. KEDDIE.....	Agent.
ORANGEVILLE.....	T. Y. GREET .....	Manager.
OTTAWA.....	J. H. PLUMMER.....	"
PETERBORO .....	R. W. SMYLIE.....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	H. C. BARWICK.....	"
SARNIA .....	F. W. HOLMESTED.....	"
SIMCOE.....	HENRY GROFF.....	"
STRATHROY.....	J. S. SMALL .....	"
THOROLD .....	W. J. ROBERTSON .....	Agent.
TORONTO.....	J. S. LOCKIE.....	Manager.
TRENTON.....	WILLIAM SMITH .....	"
WINDSOR.....	J. G. ORCHARD .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ J. G. HARPER.....	} Agents.
	{ J. H. GOADBY.....	
	{ B. E. WALKER.....	

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.
LONDON, ENGLAND	THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,

ON TUESDAY, 14TH JULY, 1874.

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The chair was taken at noon by the President, the Hon. William McMaster, and upon motion of W. H. Stanton, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by James Blain, Esq., of Galt, the General Manager, W. N. Anderson, Esq., was requested to act as Secretary. The Secretary then read the following

## REPORT.

In submitting to the Shareholders the results of last year's business, the Directors have the satisfaction of stating that the affairs of the Bank continue in a sound and prosperous condition. After covering the charges of management, writing off bad debts, and amply providing for contingencies,

The net profits of the twelve months ending 30th

June, amount to .....\$833,573 00

To which add balance of Profit and Loss Account,

carried from last year..... 20,142 40

---

\$853,715 40

From this has to be deducted :—	
Dividend No. 13, of four per cent., for six months, ending 31st December.	\$236,341 91
Dividend No. 14, of five per cent., for six months, ending 30th June...	300,000 00
Transferred to Rest Account .....	300,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on current discounts....	10,000 00
	<hr/> \$846,341 91
Balance remaining at credit of Profit and Loss Account .....	<hr/> \$7,373 49

It will be observed from the accompanying statement that besides providing for two half-yearly dividends of four and five per cent., respectively, appropriating \$32,704.60 for accrued interest on deposits, and adding \$10,000 to the reserve of interest on current bills—which now amounts to \$75,604—the sum of \$300,000 has been carried to Rest Account, making the fund \$1,800,000, and the balance of \$7,373.49 remains at credit of Profit and Loss Account.

In view of such results from the operations of a year which has been marked by unusual depression in some of the leading branches of Canadian industry, the Directors felt that the time had arrived when a larger portion of the profits might, with safety, be divided amongst the Shareholders. A dividend was therefore declared at the rate of ten per cent. per annum for the last six months; and looking to the Rest already accumulated—which is equal to thirty per cent. upon the capital—in connection with the valuable business established, there is no reason to apprehend any difficulty in paying the same dividend in future.

The business of the head office having assumed large proportions, it was found impossible for the Cashier to conduct its details and to give to the branches that constant and minute attention so essential to safety. The Board have, therefore, appointed Mr. James S. Lockie, the Inspector, Local Manager at Toronto, and have placed Mr. Anderson

in the position of General Manager; an arrangement which they feel confident will promote the interests of the Bank.

The necessity of the Bank being directly represented at the seat of the Dominion Government having become apparent, the Directors decided upon establishing a branch there, which is now in operation. Agencies have also been opened at two other points during the year, not so much with a view to an increase of business, as to protect that which had been previously secured.

Increased vault accommodation and other conveniences being required at the head office, a considerable addition has been made to the building, and a first-class vault erected, the expenditure upon which, together with improvements of the Bank's property at other points, and the cost of fitting up the office at Ottawa, represents the sum of \$23,060.97 added to the Bank's Premises and Furniture Account.

The General Manager's continued unremitting attention to the affairs of the Bank fully entitles him to the entire approval of the Directors; and they are pleased to be able to state that the Inspector, Managers, Agents, and other officers, have generally discharged their duties in a satisfactory manner.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously:—

Moved by the President, seconded by Robert Wilkes, Esq., M.P.:

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by Wm. Cawthra, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by John J. Arnton, Esq., of Montreal:

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors, for the care and attention they have bestowed upon the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by James Norris, Esq., M.P., of St. Catharines seconded by T. D. McConkey, Esq., of Barrie :

That the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager and other officers of the Bank for the zeal with which they have discharged their respective duties during the year.

The Secretary having read the draft of the amended By-laws, it was moved by James Maclellan, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by F. Mackelcan, Esq., of Hamilton :

That the By-laws now read by the Secretary, numbered one to twenty-eight, be and are hereby declared to be the By-laws of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, enacted under provisions of the Statute 34 Victoria, chapter 5, entitled, "An Act relating to Banks and Banking."

Moved by Ernestus Crombie, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by James Logie, Esq., of West Flamboro :

That the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until 3 o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, and that Messrs. Jas. Browne, H. Pellatt and Wm. J. Baines do act as scrutineers, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote having been tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :—

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 14th, 1874.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :

HON. WM. MCMASTER

ADAM HOPE, ESQ.

NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.

JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.

F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ.

T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.

WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

ROBERT WILKES, ESQ., M.P.

JAMES BROWNE,

HENRY PELLATT,

W. J. BAINES,

} Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Robert Wilkes, Esq., M.P., was elected Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 14th July, 1874.







DAWSON YUKON TERRITORY



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	\$1,900,000

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## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	-	-	PRESIDENT.
ROBERT WILKES, Esq.,	-	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, Esq.			ADAM HOPE, Esq.
F. W. CUMBERLAND, Esq.			JAMES MICHIE, Esq.
WILLIAM ELLIOT, Esq.			T. S. STAYNER, Esq.
GEORGE TAYLOR, Esq.			

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**W. N. ANDERSON,** General Manager.

JOHN C. KEMP, Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1875.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes in circulation .....	\$1,659,903 00
Dominion Government Deposits, payable on demand.....	309,094 01
Dominion Government Deposits, payable after notice or on a fixed day .....	439,888 89
Provincial Government Deposits, payable on demand.....	11,597 40
Provincial Government Deposits, payable after notice or on a fixed day .....	409,319 47
Other Deposits payable on demand .....	3,559,300 02
Other Deposits payable after notice or on a fixed day .....	3,086,888 77
Due to other Banks in Canada.....	76,486 27
Due to other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom..	420,785 12
	<hr/>
	\$9,973,262 95

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up.....	\$6,000,000 00
Reserve.....	1,900,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on current discounts .....	85,604 00
Reserve for interest on deposit receipts.....	35,396 48
Dividends unpaid.....	1,773 33
Dividend No. 16, payable 2nd July.....	300,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to the next half year.....	4,044 60
	<hr/>
	8,326,818 41
	<hr/>
	\$18,300,081 36

# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 990,263 69
Dominion Notes .....	578,090 32
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks .....	384,809 34
Balances due from other Banks in Canada...	302,488 70
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries .....	453,891 13
Government Debentures or Stock .....	250,000 00
<hr/>	
Immediately available .....	\$2,959,543 18
Loans to Provincial Government .....	64,256 47
Loans, Discounts or Advances for which shares of the Capital Stock of any other Bank are held as collateral security....	413,072 64
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Bonds or Debentures .....	
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Current Account to Corporations .....	520,624 50
Notes and Bills Discounted and Current ....	13,895,131 15
Notes and Bills Discounted, Overdue and not specially Secured .....	137,418 02
Overdue Debts secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities...	61,434 25
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank .....	26,109 60
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	208,885 40
Other Assets not included under the fore- going heads .....	13,606 15
<hr/>	
\$18,300,081 36	

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 30th June, 1875.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... W. SIMPSON ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

BARRIE ..... WILLIAM SMITH ..... Manager.  
 BRANTFORD ..... JAMES POLLOCK ..... "  
 CHATHAM ..... W. S. IRELAND ..... "  
 COLLINGWOOD ..... JOHN MCMASTER ..... "  
 DUNDAS ..... D. JUST ..... "  
 GALT ..... ROBERT GILL ..... "  
 GODERICH ..... A. M. ROSS ..... "  
 GUELPH ..... G. W. SANDILANDS ..... "  
 HAMILTON ..... C. R. MURRAY ..... "  
 LONDON ..... R. W. SMYLIE ..... "  
 LUCAN ..... A. H. IRELAND ..... Act. Agent.  
 ORANGEVILLE ..... R. T. HAUN ..... Manager.  
 OTTAWA ..... J. H. PLUMMER ..... "  
 PAISLEY ..... J. F. PATTERSON ..... "  
 PETERBORO ..... W. MANSON ..... "  
 ST. CATHARINES ..... H. C. BARWICK ..... "  
 SARNIA ..... T. W. NISBET ..... "  
 SIMCOE ..... F. W. HOLMESTED ..... "  
 STRATHROY ..... J. S. SMALL ..... "  
 THOROLD ..... W. J. ROBERTSON ..... Agent.  
 TORONTO ..... J. S. LOCKIE ..... Manager.  
 TRENTON ..... P. H. FAUQUIER ..... "  
 WINDSOR ..... B. E. WALKER ..... "  
 WOODSTOCK ..... W. A. SAMPSON ..... "

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK ..... { J. G. HARPER ..... } Agents.  
 ..... { JOHN H. GOADBY ..... }  
 CHICAGO ..... J. G. ORCHARD ..... Agent.

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK - THE NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC.  
 LONDON, ENGLAND - THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

### OF THE

## EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,

AT NOON, ON TUESDAY, 13TH JULY, 1875.

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The President, the Hon. William McMaster, having been called to the chair, it was moved by the Hon. Senator Aikins, of Richview, seconded by Sheriff McConkey, of Barrie, that the following gentlemen be appointed to act as scrutineers: Messrs. Henry Pellatt, W. J. Baines and Lawrence Buchan, and that the General Manager be the Secretary of the meeting.

The Secretary read the following

### REPORT.

It affords the Directors pleasure again to meet and lay before the Shareholders the results of another year's business. After covering expenses of management, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts,

The net profits of the twelve months ending 30th

June, amount to .....\$742,067 59

To which add balance of Profit and Loss Account

carried from last year..... 7,373 49

---

\$749,441 08

From this has to be deducted :	
Dividend No. 15, of five per cent., for the six months ending 31st Dec.	\$300,000 00
Dividend No. 16, of five per cent., for the six months ending 30th June	300,000 00
Transferred to Rest Account . . . . .	100,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on current discounts . . .	10,000 00
Reserved for accrued interest on deposit receipts . . . . .	35,396 48
	<hr/> \$745,396 48
Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account. . .	<hr/> \$4,044 60

The accompanying statements show that besides paying two half-yearly dividends of five per cent. each, appropriating \$35,396.48 for accrued interest on deposits, and adding \$10,000 to the reserve of interest on current bills—which now amounts to \$85,604—the sum of \$100,000 has been carried to Rest Account, making that fund \$1,900,000, and the balance of \$4,044.60 remains at credit of Profit and Loss Account.

It will be observed that the surplus carried to Rest Account is less than usual. This is mainly attributable to an increase in the annual dividend,—which is one per cent. in excess of any previously paid,—together with the comparatively low rates which money commanded during a large portion of the year, followed as this was by a season of unusual stringency and subsequent depression in many of the leading branches of business, circumstances which rendered the exercise of extreme caution in managing the Bank's affairs of more than ordinary importance ; and, until the trade of the country assumes a more promising aspect, your Directors are of opinion that whatever the immediate results may be as regards profits, a scrupulous observance of the same conservative policy will ultimately be most conducive to the interests of the Shareholders.



With a view to the maintenance and probable increase of valued existing interests, your Directors have felt for some time past that the Bank should be directly represented in Chicago, and they have recently opened an agency there under favorable auspices.

In making the usual inspections, special care has been taken to examine critically the entire business of the Bank, which, it is gratifying to state, is in a satisfactory condition.

In recording their appreciation of Mr. Anderson's continued devotion to the interests of the Bank, the Directors feel pleasure in bearing testimony to the zeal with which the Inspector, Managers, Agents, and other officers generally, have discharged their respective duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. MCMASTER,

President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :—

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That the report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by Hon. George Alexander, of Woodstock, seconded by William Cawthra, Esq., of Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by Capt. James Norris, M.P., of St. Catharines, seconded by A. T. McCord, Esq., of Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties referred to in the report now read.

Moved by J. L. Blaikie, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by A. V. Delaporte, Esq., of the same place :

That the ballot-box be now opened and remain open

until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 13th, 1875.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :—

HON. WM. MCMASTER

ROBERT WILKES, ESQ.

NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.

F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ.

WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

ADAM HOPE, ESQ.

JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.

T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

HENRY PELLATT,

W. J. BAINES,

LAWRENCE BUCHAN,

} Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Robt. Wilkes, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 13th July, 1875.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

---

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	\$1,900,000

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## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	-	PRESIDENT.
ADAM HOPE, ESQ.,	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.		JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.
F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ.		T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.		GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
ROBERT WILKES, ESQ.		

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W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

C. R. MURRAY, Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1876.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 1,569,218 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	1,573,429 00
Deposits bearing interest.....	5,740,693 48
Due to other Banks in Canada.....	171,519 17
Due to other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom...	527,208 14

\$ 9,582,067 79

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest .....	1,900,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on current dis- counts .....	95,604 00
Reserve for interest on deposit receipts .....	29,432 82
Dividends unpaid .....	2,999 27
Dividend No. 18, payable 3rd July .....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year .....	138,545 52

8,406,581 61

\$17,988,649 40

# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 854,575 39
Dominion Notes .....	741,867 58
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	446,014 75
Balances due from other Banks in Canada....	499,601 96
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries . . . . .	1,105,186 93
Government Debentures or Stock.....	250,000 00
<hr/>	
Immediately available .....	\$3,897,246 61
Loans to Provincial Government.....	16,727 73
Loans, Discounts or Advances for which shares of the Capital Stock of any other Bank are held as collateral security .....	841,767 75
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Current Account to Corporations....	603,064 92
Notes and Bills Discounted and Current.....	12,068,462 07
Notes and Bills Discounted, Overdue and not specially Secured.....	220,899 13
Overdue Debts secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stocks, or by other Securities...	52,437 92
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	52,191 80
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	222,221 78
Other Assets not included under the foregoing heads .....	13,629 69
<hr/>	
<u>\$17,988,649 40</u>	

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 30th June, 1876.

**MONTREAL.....W. SIMPSON.....Manager.**

BARRIE ..... WM. SMITH.....Manager.

UNITED STATES—

**BANKERS:**

NEW YORK . . . THE NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE.  
LONDON, ENGLAND . . THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON, ON TUESDAY, 11TH JULY, 1876.

The President, the Hon. William McMaster, having been called to the chair, it was moved by James Young, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by A. V. Delaporte, Esq., of the same place, that the following gentlemen be appointed to act as scrutineers: Messrs. James Browne, Henry Pellatt and Lawrence Buchan; and that the General Manager act as Secretary.

The Secretary read the following

### REPORT.

The Directors have pleasure in submitting to the Shareholders the Ninth Annual Report, with the usual statements, showing the results of the year's business. After covering expenses of management, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts,

The net profits for the twelve months ending the

30th June, 1876, amount to.....	\$653,933 74
Add balance carried from last year .....	4,044 60
	<hr/>
	\$657,978 34

From which has to be deducted :	
Dividend No. 17, of four per cent. for the six months ending 31st December .....	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 18, of four per cent., for the six months ending 30th June	240,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on current bills.....	10,000 00
Reserved for accrued interest on deposit receipts .....	29,432 82
	<hr/> \$519,432 82
Balance .....	<hr/> \$138,545 52

Of this unappropriated balance a considerable sum might, in ordinary times, have been transferred to the Rest, but the existing exceptional state of trade suggested that it would be more in accordance with the policy by which your Directors seek to be governed, to leave the amount at credit of Profit and Loss Account.

It will be observed that the profits are considerably less than those of former years ; but in view of the inflated condition in which the business of the country has been placed, chiefly by overtrading, and the consequent stagnation in almost every branch of industry, coupled with the obvious necessity there is for the exercise of more than ordinary caution under the system of contraction now in progress, your Directors venture to hope that the results of the year's business will be satisfactory to the Shareholders. Be this as it may, they feel that everything in their power, consistently with a due regard to safety, has been done, in order to make the capital as productive as possible.

Finding the field for the profitable employment of money greatly circumscribed, and not looking for any appreciable change in this respect, while trade remains so much depressed (not only in Canada, but also throughout the United States and Europe), and deeming it advisable to



provide against any contingency that might arise under the circumstances, your Directors, after mature deliberation, concluded that it would ultimately be in the interest of the Shareholders to return, in the meantime, to an eight per cent. dividend.

Besides the usual inspection of all the branches, the entire business of the Bank has been carefully scrutinized, and the Directors are pleased to be able to state that its affairs continue in a satisfactory condition; and, while not disposed to be over sanguine with reference to the future, they have no doubt that on the general business of the country improving, even to a moderate extent, all the reasonable expectations of the Shareholders will be fully realized.

The Directors are pleased to acknowledge the zeal and untiring efforts of Mr. Anderson, the General Manager, in promoting the interests of the Bank, and the satisfactory manner in which the Managers, Agents, and other officers generally have discharged their respective duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. MCMASTER,

President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously:

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President:

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by John J. Arnton, Esq., of Montreal, seconded by the Hon. Senator Aikins, of Richview:

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by Sheriff McConkey, of Barrie, seconded by J. L. Blaikie, Esq., of Toronto:

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the

satisfactory discharge of their respective duties referred to in the Report now read.

Moved by George Roach, Esq., of Hamilton, seconded by V. Cronyn, Esq., of London :

That the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until half-past two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being taken.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 11th, 1876.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager:

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year:—

HON. WM. MCMASTER  
ROBERT WILKES, ESQ.  
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.  
F. W. CUMBERLAND, ESQ.

WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.  
ADAM HOPE, ESQ.  
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.  
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

HENRY PELLATT,  
JAMES BROWNE,  
LAWRENCE BUCHAN } Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Adam Hope, Esq., was elected Vice-President.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 11th July, 1876.



DUNDAS, ONT.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

---

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	\$1,900,000

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## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	-	PRESIDENT.
HON. ADAM HOPE,	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.		T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.		GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.		J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.
A. R. MCMASTER, ESQ.		

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W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

J. H. PLUMMER, Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1877.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$1,365,828 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	1,351,632 14
Deposits bearing interest.....	6,231,587 21
Due to other Banks in Canada.....	101,201 84
Due to other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom...	304,735 67
	<u>\$9,354,984 86</u>

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up.....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest.....	1,900,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on current dis-	
counts.....	105,604 00
Reserve for interest on deposit receipts.....	35,065 29
Dividends unpaid.....	4,139 60
Dividend No. 20, payable 3rd July.....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried	
forward to next half year.....	67,401 15
	<u>8,352,210 04</u>
	<u>\$17,707,194 90</u>

# ASSETS.

Specie .....	\$ 881,305 09
Dominion Notes.....	620,834 00
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	334,634 58
Balances due from other Banks in Canada....	889,255 67
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries .....	1,297,536 85
Government Debentures or Stock.....	493,178 35
Immediately available.....	\$4,516,744 54
Loans to Provincial Government.....	22,970 10
Loans, Discounts or Advances, for which Shares of the Capital Stock of any other Bank are held as Collateral Security....	342,884 18
Loans, Discounts or Advances, for which the Bonds or Debentures of Municipal or other Corporations, or Dominion, Pro- vincial, British or Foreign Public Securi- ties are held as Collateral Securities....	423,956 13
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Current Ac- count to Corporations.....	153,398 80
Notes and Bills Discounted and Current.....	11,521,322 94
Notes and Bills Discounted, Overdue, and not specially Secured .....	187,770 52
Overdue Debts secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities..	226,528 05
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	64,543 44
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	235,167 27
Other Assets not included under the fore- going heads.....	11,908 93
	<u>\$17,707,194 90</u>

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 30th June, 1877.

## BRANCHES

**QUEBEC—**

**MONTREAL.....W. SIMPSON.....Manager**

**ONTARIO—**

**BARRIE.....J. S. CARNEGY.....Manager.**

BRANTFORD.....W. ROBERTS.....“

CAYUGA .....E. COWDRY..... "

CHATHAM ..... W. S. IRELAND..... "

COLLINGWOOD.....JOHN McMASTER..... "

DUNDAS.....D. H. CHARLES..... "

DUNNVILLE .....F. O. CROSS..... "

GALT ..... W. A. SAMPSON..... "

GODERICH.....A. M. ROSS.....“

GUELPH.....WM. SMITH.....“

HAMILTON.....JNO. C. KEMP.....“

LONDON.....R. W. SMYLIE.....“

LUCAN.....J. E. THOMAS.....Agent.

ORANGEVILLE . . . . . R. T. HAUN . . . . . Manager.

OTTAWA.....ROBERT GILL....."

PETERBORO ..... W. MANSON..... "

ST. CATHARINES.....H. C. BARWICK..... "

SARNIA ..... T. W. NISBET..... "

SIMCOE ..... F. W. HOLMSTED..... "

STRATFORD.....A. H. IRELAND..... "

STRATHROY.....J. HALE..... "

THOROLD..... W. J. ROBERTSON..... "

TORONTO..... J. S. LOCKIE..... "

TRENTON.....P. H. FAUQUIER....."

WALKERTON.....D. JUST.....“

WINDSOR.....B. E. WALKER....."

WOODSTOCK.....

## UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK.....{ J. G. HARPER..... } Agents.  
                                  { JOHN H. GOADBY..... }

CHICAGO.....J. G. ORCHARD.....Agent.

**BANKERS:**

NEW YORK - THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.  
LONDON, ENGLAND THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.





DUNNVILLE, ONT.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### TENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 10TH JULY, 1877.

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The President, the Hon. William McMaster, having been called to the chair, it was moved by Æmilius Irving, Esq., of Hamilton, seconded by Maurice O'Connor, Esq., of Toronto, that the following gentlemen be appointed to act as scrutineers: Messrs. James Browne, Henry Pellatt and Lawrence Buchan; and that the General Manager act as Secretary.

The Secretary read the following

## REPORT.

The Directors are pleased again to meet and lay before the Shareholders the result of another year's business.

After covering charges of management, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net profits for the twelve months ending 30th

June, 1877, amount to.....	\$ 453,920 92
Add balance carried from last year.....	138,545 52
	<hr/>
	\$592,466 44

Dividend No. 19, of four per cent., for the six months ending 31st Dec...	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 20, of four per cent., for the six months ending 30th June.	240,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on current discounts....	10,000 00
Reserved for accrued interest on deposit receipts .....	35,065 29
	525,065 29
Carried forward at credit of Profit and Loss Account .....	<u>\$67,401 15</u>

The general depression of trade referred to in last year's Report has continued with unabated severity in almost every branch of industry, rendering it impossible to employ capital at former remunerative rates. This circumstance, together with the determination of the Board to confine the operations of the Bank to business of a legitimate commercial character, has had the effect of materially reducing the profits.

In view of the state of the country, it was not to be expected that even the utmost prudence in the management could keep the Bank entirely free from losses; but having been able to pay a dividend of eight per cent., and make a liberal appropriation for bad and doubtful debts, chiefly from the year's earnings, the Directors believe that the result, under the circumstances, will be satisfactory to the Shareholders.

The Directors will not venture to express an opinion as to the future course of business; they may remark, however, that the Bank was never in a better position to avail itself of any revival which a more favourable condition of things may develop.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by V. Cronyn, Esq., of London, seconded by Samuel Risley, Esq., of Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by Ernest Crombie, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by John Lyndall, Esq., of the same place :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by A. R. McMaster, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by C. J. Campbell, Esq., of the same place :

That the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 10th, 1877.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :—

HON. WM. MCMASTER

HON. ADAM HOPE

NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.

WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.

T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.

A. R. MCMASTER, ESQ.

JAMES BROWNE,

HENRY PELLATT,

LAWRENCE BUCHAN,

} Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and the Hon. Adam Hope Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 10th July, 1877.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	\$1,400,000

---

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	-	PRESIDENT.
HON. ADAM HOPE,	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.		T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.		GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.		J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.
A. R. MCMASTER, ESQ.		

---

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

J. H. PLUMMER, Inspector.

## GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 29TH JUNE, 1878.

### LIABILITIES

#### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$1,573,902 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	1,373,105 95
Deposits bearing interest.....	6,689,416 09
Due to other Banks in Canada.....	132,856 45
Due to other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom...	194,809 20
	<hr/>
	\$9,964,089 69

#### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up.....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest.....	1,400,000 00
Contingent Fund.....	150,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on current dis- counts .....	115,604 00
Reserve for interest on deposit receipts.....	36,383 60
Dividends unpaid.....	1,332 77
Dividend No. 22, payable 2nd July.....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year .....	82,567 75
	<hr/>
	8,025,888 12
	<hr/>
	\$17,989,977 81



# ASSETS

Specie.....	\$ 796,456 14
Dominion Notes.....	921,850 75
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	402,139 69
Balances due from other Banks in Canada....	715,895 45
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries .....	1,231,308 67
Government Debentures or Stock.....	493,178 35
Immediately available.....	\$4,560,829 05
Loans to Provincial Government .....	36,605 60
Loans, Discounts or Advances, for which Shares of the Capital Stock of any other Bank are held as Collateral Security....	377,685 47
Loans, Discounts or Advances, for which the Bonds or Debentures of Municipal or other Corporations, or Dominion, Pro- vincial, British or Foreign Public Securi- ties are held as Collateral Securities....	383,939 80
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Current Ac- count to Corporations.....	586,390 24
Notes and Bills Discounted and Current....	11,440,304 53
Notes and Bills Discounted, Overdue and not specially Secured.....	92,172 54
Overdue Debts secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities....	156,870 94
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	108,040 13
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	237,253 99
Other Assets not included under the foregoing heads.....	9,885 52
	<hr/> \$17,989,977 81

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 29th June, 1878.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... W. SIMPSON..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

BARRIE.....	J. S. CARNEGIE.....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE .....	R. THOMSON.....	"
BRANTFORD.....	W. ROBERTS.....	"
CHATHAM .....	W. S. IRELAND.....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	JOHN MCMASTER.....	"
DUNDAS.....	D. H. CHARLES.....	"
DUNNVILLE.....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
GALT.....	W. A. SAMPSON.....	"
GODERICH.....	A. M. ROSS.....	"
GUELPH .....	WM. SMITH.....	"
HAMILTON.....	JNO. C. KEMP.....	"
LONDON .....	B. E. WALKER.....	"
LUCAN.....	E. COWDRY.....	Agent.
ORANGEVILLE .....	R. T. HAUN.....	Manager.
OTTAWA.....	ROBERT GILL.....	"
PARIS .....	JEFFERY HALE.....	"
PETERBORO.....	W. MANSON.....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	H. C. BARWICK.....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SIMCOE.....	F. W. HOLMESTED.....	"
STRATFORD.....	A. H. IRELAND.....	"
STRATHROY.....		"
THOROLD.....	W. J. ROBERTSON.....	"
TORONTO.....	J. S. LOCKIE.....	"
WALKERTON .....	D. JUST .....	"
WINDSOR.....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
WOODSTOCK.....	A. L. DEWAR.....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK.....	{ J. G. HARPER.....	} Agents.
	{ J. H. GOADBY.....	
CHICAGO.....	J. G. ORCHARD.....	Agent.

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.
LONDON, ENGLAND	THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.



EDMONTON, ALTA.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON, ON TUESDAY, 9TH JULY, 1878.

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The President, the Hon. William McMaster, having been called to the chair, it was moved by A. V. Delaporte, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by W. J. Baines, Esq., of Toronto, that the following gentlemen be appointed to act as scrutineers: Messrs. James Browne, Henry Pellatt and R. H. Temple; and that the General Manager act as Secretary.

The Secretary read the following

### REPORT.

The Directors beg to lay before the Shareholders the result of another year's business.

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account,

30th June, 1877.....\$ 67,401 15

The profits of the year ended 29th June, 1878,

after deducting charges of management, and  
making provision for all bad and doubtful

debts pertaining to the year's operations, are 541,550 20

\$608,951 35

From this sum has to be deducted :	
Dividend No. 21, of four per cent., for six months ending 31st December.	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 22, of four per cent., for six months ending 30th June....	240,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on current discounts....	10,000 00
Reserved for accrued interest on deposit receipts.....	36,387 60
	<hr/> \$526,383 60
Leaving a balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account of.....	<hr/> \$ 82,567 75

It will be observed that, notwithstanding the continued depression, the Directors have been able to pay out of the twelve months' profits the usual dividend of eight per cent., provide for the bad and doubtful debts legitimately belonging to the year, and transfer \$15,166.60 to the credit of Profit and Loss Account.

It having been apparent for some time past that certain obligations held by the Bank, which it was hoped would ultimately prove recoverable, had been rendered more than doubtful by the trying and protracted ordeal through which nearly every branch of business has been passing, the Directors determined to deal with the . at once. It is possible that a portion of these obligations may yet be collected, but to continue to include them in the available assets after their character has been definitely ascertained could not be justified on any principle of sound banking, and as they are the final outcome of business transacted during a former period of general and undue expansion, when the Rest was largely increased, the Directors decided to provide for them out of that fund, from which the sum of \$500,000 has therefore been withdrawn, and applied as follows :

Appropriated for bad and doubtful debts.....	\$350,000
Placed at credit of Contingent Fund Account.....	150,000
	<hr/> \$500,000

The Rest or Reserve Fund now amounts to \$1,400,000, equivalent to  $23\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. on the capital.

The policy of contraction observed by all prudent business men has largely diminished the volume of commercial transactions, while excessive competition in banking and the necessity for extremely cautious management have materially affected the earnings. There are, however, indications of improvement, and the position of the Bank fully warrants the Directors in stating that when business becomes sufficiently healthy and active to afford safe and profitable employment for money, every reasonable expectation of the Shareholders will be realized.

WM. MCMASTER,

President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That By-law No. 2 be struck out and the following substituted :

The Common Seal shall remain in the Bank, under the control of the President, or in his absence, of the Vice-President, or in their absence, of such Director as the Board of Directors shall for the time being appoint ; and the affixing of the seal to any instrument shall be preceded by an authorization to that effect of not fewer than three of the Directors, and shall be accompanied by the official signature of the President, or Vice-President, or of the Director so appointed in their absence, and all such authorizations shall be reported at the next following meeting of the Board, and recorded in the minutes of their proceedings.

Moved by Samuel Platt, Esq., M.P., of Toronto, seconded by W. G. Cassels, Esq., of the same place :

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by F. Mackelcan, Esq., of Hamilton, seconded by Samuel Risley, Esq., of Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by J. J. Arnton, Esq., of Montreal, seconded by John Y. Reid, Esq., of Toronto :

That the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 9th, 1878.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :—

HON. WM. MCMASTER  
HON. ADAM HOPE  
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.  
WILLIAM ELLIOT, ESQ.

GEO. TAYLOR, ESQ.  
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.  
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.  
A. R. MCMASTER, ESQ.

J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.

JAMES BROWNE,  
HENRY PELLATT, } Scrutineers.  
R. H. TEMPLE, }





FERNIE, B C.



At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors, held subsequently the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and the Hon. Adam Hope, Vice-President, by a unanimous vote

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

9th July, 1878.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	.	.	.	.	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	.	.	.	.	\$6,000,000
REST	.	.	.	.	\$1,400,000

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## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WM. MCMASTER,	.	.	.	PRESIDENT.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.,	.	.	.	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.				T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
HON. ADAM HOPE.				GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.				J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.
A. R. MCMASTER, ESQ.				

---

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

B. E. WALKER, Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 28TH JUNE, 1879.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$1,736,792 00	
Deposits not bearing interest.....	1,818,361 31	
Deposits bearing interest .....	7,983,771 64	
Due to other Banks in Canada.....	348,589 91	
Due to other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom .....	252,769 24	
		<u>\$12,140,284 10</u>

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$6,000,000 00	
Rest .....	1,400,000 00	
Contingent Fund.....	75,000 00	
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts .....	125,604 00	
Reserve for interest on Deposit Receipts....	35,762 97	
Dividends unpaid .....	643 07	
Dividend No. 24, payable 2nd July.....	240,000 00	
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year .....	133,231 38	
		<u>8,010,241 42</u>
		<u>\$20,150,525 52</u>

# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 665,563 11
Dominion Notes .....	1,245,534 50
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks .....	279,204 67
Balances due from other Banks in Canada ..	500,793 21
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries .....	724,334 66
Government Debentures or Stock .....	855,658 85
<hr/>	
Immediately available .....	\$4,271,089 00
Loans to Provincial Governments.....	86,868 78
Loans, Discounts, or Advances, for which shares of the Capital Stock of any other Bank are held as collateral security .....	110,906 62
Loans, Discounts, or Advances, for which the Bonds or Debentures of Municipal or other Corporations, or Dominion, Pro- vincial, British, or Foreign Public Securi- ties are held as collateral securities .....	156,805 36
Loans, Discounts or Advances on Current Account to Corporations .....	759,680 78
Notes and Bills Discounted and Current....	14,111,622 63
Notes and Bills Discounted, Overdue, and not specially Secured .....	147,760 79
Overdue Debts, secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities .....	107,427 44
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	132,221 20
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	255,782 71
Other Assets, not included under the fore- going heads .....	10,360 21
<hr/>	
<u>\$20,150,525 52</u>	

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 28th June, 1879.

## BRANCHES

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### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... W. SIMPSON ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

BARRIE .....	J. S. CARNEGIE.....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE .....	R. THOMSON.....	"
BERLIN .....	J. YOUNG .....	"
BRANTFORD .....	W. ROBERTS.....	"
CHATHAM .....	W. S. IRELAND .....	"
COLLINGWOOD.....	JOHN MCMASTER .....	"
DUNDAS.....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
GALT .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	"
GUNDERICH .....	A. M. ROSS .....	"
GUELPH.....	WM. SMITH.....	"
HAMILTON .....	JOHN C. KEMP.....	"
LONDON .....	D. JUST .....	"
LUCAN .....	E. COWDRY .....	Agent.
NORWICH .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	Manager.
ORANGEVILLE .....	R. T. HAUN.....	"
OTTAWA .....	ROBERT GILL .....	"
PARIS .....	JEFFERY HALE.....	"
PETERBORO .....	W. MANSON .....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	H. C. BARWICK .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET .....	"
SEAFORTH.....	M. P. HAYES.....	"
SIMCOE .....	F. W. HOLMESTED.....	"
STRATFORD .....	A. H. IRELAND .....	"
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL.....	"
THOROLD.....	W. J. ROBERTSON .....	"
TORONTO.....	J. S. LOCKIE.....	"
WALKERTON .....		"
WINDSOR .....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	A. L. DEWAR .....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ J. G. HARPER.....	} Agents.
	{ J. H. GOADBY .....	
CHICAGO .....	J. G. ORCHARD .....	Agent.

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### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	-	THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.
LONDON, ENGLAND		THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 8TH JULY, 1879.

---

The President, the Hon. William McMaster, having been called to the chair, and the General Manager appointed Secretary, it was moved by A. V. Delaporte, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by John Waldie, Esq., of Burlington, that the following gentlemen be appointed to act as Scrutineers: Messrs. James Browne and Henry Pellatt.

The Secretary read the following

## REPORT.

The Directors beg to submit the results of another year's business, accompanied by the required statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account on	
29th June, 1878 .....	\$ 82,567 75
Profits of the year ended 28th June, 1879, after	
deducting charges of management, and pro-	
viding for bad and doubtful debts .....	576,426 60
	<hr/>
	\$658,994 35

Which sum has been appropriated as follows :

Dividend No. 23 .....	\$240,000 00	
Dividend No. 24 .....	240,000 00	
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts....	10,000 00	
Reserved for accrued interest on De- posit Receipts .....	35,762 97	525,762 97
Leaving at credit of Profit and Loss Account..	\$133,231 38	

The Directors are pleased to be able to state, that, while the general depression referred to in last year's Report continues with unabated severity, they have been able to pay out of the twelve months' earnings the usual dividend of eight per cent., leaving a balance of \$60,663.63. This surplus is not so large as those of former years, a circumstance mainly attributable to the business having been less remunerative, and to the extreme caution exercised in its management,—which the state of the country rendered of the utmost importance,—and not to losses sustained during the year, which have been exceptionally small.

It was decided last year to transfer \$150,000 to "Contingent Account" to cover certain doubtful debts as their position became defined: half of this sum has been used for that purpose, leaving a balance of \$75,000 still at the credit of the Account.

The funds of the Bank have generally been fully employed, from which it might be inferred that the results should have been more favourable; but in view of the unsettled feeling that has prevailed in financial circles, the Directors deemed it advisable to place a considerable amount in securities available at short notice, and as this could only be done at comparatively low rates of interest, the profits have necessarily been affected thereby.

The Bank recently assumed the business formerly conducted by another Institution at Berlin and Norwich, which,

after minute examination, the Directors have reason to believe will, with proper management, prove both safe and reasonably profitable.

The deposits and circulation are considerably in excess of what they were at the corresponding period of last year; the Branches are thoroughly looked after and are under perfect control; the Bank's connections are numerous and valuable; and the Directors have no hesitation in representing the business as being in a sound and healthy condition.

Special endeavours have been made with a view to the reduction of the Bank's working expenses to the lowest point consistent with efficiency; and in conducting the affairs of the Institution generally, the earnest efforts of the Directors have been exerted in the interests of the Shareholders, which they believe can be best promoted by constantly aiming at safety rather than large profits.

WM. MCMASTER,

President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously:

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President:

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by F. Mackelcan, Esq., Q.C., of Hamilton, seconded by James Young, Esq., of Toronto:

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by Thomas M. Thomson, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by David McGee, Esq., of the same place:

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by John J. Arnton, Esq., of Montreal, seconded by James Michie, Esq., of Toronto :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered :

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 8th, 1879.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager.

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year:—

HON. WM. MCMASTER  
HON. ADAM HOPE  
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.  
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.  
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.  
GEO. TAYLOR, ESQ.  
J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.

A. R. MCMASTER, ESQ.

JAMES BROWNE,  
HENRY PELLATT, } Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Wm. Elliot, Esq., was elected Vice-President, by a unanimous vote, the Hon. Adam Hope having expressed a desire to be relieved of the duties of Vice-President, owing to his residing at a distance from the Head Office of the Bank.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 8th July, 1879.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	- - -	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	- - - - -	\$6,000,000
REST	- - - - -	\$1,400,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	-	PRESIDENT.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.,	- - - - -	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.		T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
HON. ADAM HOPE.		GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.		J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.
A. R. MCMASTER, ESQ.		

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

B. E. WALKER, Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 29TH JUNE, 1880.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$2,100,210 00
Deposits not bearing interest .....	1,789,247 74
Deposits bearing interest .....	9,317,380 61
Due to other Banks in Canada .....	177,414 97
	<hr/> \$13,384,253 32

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest .....	1,400,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Dis-	
counts .....	135,604 00
Reserve for interest on Deposit Receipts ....	46,558 44
Dividends unpaid .....	747 07
Dividend No. 26, payable 2nd July .....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried	
forward to next half year .....	228,548 25
	<hr/> 8,051,457 76
	<hr/> \$21,435,711 08

# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 814,813 79
Dominion Notes .....	931,551 50
Notes of and cheques on other Banks .....	406,536 42
Balances due from other Banks in Canada....	403,087 22
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries .....	3,782,860 15
Balances due from other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom.....	62,031 29
Government Debentures or Stock.....	752,213 53
Immediately available .....	\$7,153,093 90
Loans and Bills Discounted .....	13,455,546 69
Bills Discounted, Overdue, and not specially Secured .....	204,969 83
Overdue Debts, secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities ....	223,398 11
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank .....	128,741 94
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	269,960 61
	<hr/> \$21,435,711 08

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 29th June, 1880.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... W. SIMPSON ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

BARRIE .....	J. S. CARNEGIE .....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE .....	R. THOMSON .....	"
BERLIN .....	J. YOUNG .....	"
BRANTFORD .....	W. ROBERTS .....	"
CHATHAM .....	W. S. IRELAND .....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	JOHN MCMASTER .....	"
DUNDAS .....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	"
GALT .....	W. MANSON .....	"
GODERICH .....	A. M. ROSS .....	"
GUELPH .....	WM. SMITH .....	"
HAMILTON .....	JNO. C. KEMP .....	"
LONDON .....	D. JUST .....	"
LUCAN .....	F. W. BALL .....	"
NORWICH .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	R. T. HAUN .....	"
OTTAWA .....	ROBERT GILL .....	"
PARIS .....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
PETERBORO .....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	H. C. BARWICK .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET .....	"
SEAFORTH .....	A. H. IRELAND .....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....		"
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL .....	"
THOROLD .....	W. J. ROBERTSON .....	"
TORONTO .....	J. S. LOCKIE .....	"
WALKERTON .....	WM. GRAY .....	"
WINDSOR .....	J. E. THOMAS .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	A. L. DEWAR .....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ J. G. HARPER .....	} Agents.
	{ J. H. GOADBY .....	
CHICAGO .....	J. G. ORCHARD .....	Agent.

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK
LONDON, ENGLAND	THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

### OF THE

## THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 13TH JULY, 1880.

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The President, the Hon. William McMaster, having been called to the chair, and the General Manager appointed Secretary, it was moved by John F. McGlashan, Esq., of Toronto, seconded by D. McGee, Esq., of Toronto, that the following gentlemen be appointed to act as Scrutineers, Messrs. James Browne and E. H. Temple.

The Secretary read the following

## REPORT.

In conformity with the usual custom, your Directors submit, for the information of the Shareholders, the result of another year's business, accompanied by a statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Bank:

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account,	
June, 1879 .....	\$133,231 38
Profit of the year ending June, 1880, after deducting charges of management, and providing for bad and doubtful debts .....	631,875 31
	<hr/>
	\$765,106 69

Which sum has been disposed of in the following manner :

Dividend No. 25, January .....	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 26, July .....	240,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts	10,000 00
Reserved for accrued interest on De- posit Receipts .....	46,558 44
	<hr/> 536,558 44
Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account....	<hr/> \$228,548 25

It will be seen that the net earnings of the year enabled your Directors to pay the usual dividend of eight per cent., leaving a surplus of \$105,316.87, from which \$10,000 has been transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on current discounts, which fund now amounts to \$135,604.00, and the remaining \$95,316.87 has been carried to Profit and Loss Account, increasing it to \$228,548.25. This sum might have been transferred to the Rest, but it will be readily understood that the protracted depression may result in rendering some securities held by the Bank—which have heretofore been regarded as safe—not so perfectly satisfactory as the great body of its assets. The Directors, therefore, deemed it advisable to leave the whole of this amount at credit of Profit and Loss Account.

It will be observed that the balance of the sum transferred to the Contingent Fund two years ago, to cover doubtful debts, has been appropriated for that purpose.

The losses sustained during the past twelve months have been comparatively small, and have been amply provided for.

The duties of the Inspector's Department have had constant attention, and are efficiently discharged, and the Directors have much pleasure in referring to the zeal and devotion to the Bank's interests manifested by its officers generally.



GALT, ONT.



In view of the unsettled condition of financial affairs during the early part of the year, rendering it necessary to keep an unusually large amount of funds on hand to meet any emergency that might arise, together with the general depression that has prevailed and the low rates at which money has ruled, your directors are of opinion that the result of the year's business should be considered satisfactory. Be this as it may, they feel that everything in their power has been done, consistently with a due regard to considerations of prudence and safety, in order to render the funds at their disposal as productive as possible.

Two Bills affecting Banks and Currency were passed by the Dominion Parliament at its last session: one renewing the Bank Charters for ten years, and prohibiting the issue of bills under the denomination of fives, the other providing for the increase of the issue of Dominion notes from \$12,000,000 to \$20,000,000 on a reduced gold basis.

Respecting the future, the Bank, with its established business and valuable connections, is in an excellent position to take the fullest advantage of any improvement in the condition of trade, but the process of contraction and winding up which is still going on, and the large amount of money seeking investment at unusually low rates, must necessarily affect profits.

The bountiful harvest of last autumn, and the increased demand for timber and lumber at improved prices, have operated favorably upon some branches of industry: still your Directors cannot regard commercial affairs generally as being in an active or remunerative condition, nor would it be safe to count upon seeing the business of the country entirely relieved from the effects of years of overtrading, and placed upon a satisfactory basis, until at least one or two more good harvests shall have been secured.

WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President:

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by F. Mackelcan, Esq., Q.C., of Hamilton, seconded by James Young, Esq., of Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors, for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by J. M. Chafee, Esq., of Eglinton, seconded by John Waldie, Esq., of Burlington :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by John J. Arnton, Esq., of Montreal, seconded by R. M. Wells, Esq., of Toronto :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 13th July, 1880.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :—

HON. WM. MCMASTER

T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.

HON. ADAM HOPE

GEO. TAYLOR, ESQ.

WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.

NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.

JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.

A. R. MCMASTER, ESQ.

JAMES BROWNE, }

R. H. TEMPLE, } Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Wm. Elliott, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 13th July, 1880.





# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	. . . . .	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	. . . . .	\$6,000,000
REST	. . . . .	\$1,400,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WM. MCMASTER,	PRESIDENT.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.,	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.	T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
HON. ADAM HOPE.	GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.	J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.

---

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

J C. KEMP, Asst. Gen. Manager.

ROBT. GILL, Inspector.      H. A. NICHOLSON, Asst. Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

AS AT 28TH JUNE, 1881.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$ 2,685,332 00
Deposits not bearing interest .....	2,759,118 54
Deposits bearing interest .....	9,996,361 82
Due to other Banks in Canada .....	105,782 91
Due to Agencies of the Bank, or to other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom .....	226,451 47
	<hr/> \$15,773,046 74

### *To the Shareholders*

Capital paid-up .....	\$ 6,000,000 00
Reserve .....	1,400,000 00
Contingent Fund .....	175,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts .....	150,000 00
Reserve for interest on Deposit Receipts and Savings Bank Accounts .....	66,513 98
Dividends unpaid .....	1,319 07
Dividend No. 28, payable 2nd July .....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year .....	144,971 39
	<hr/> 8,177,804 44
	<hr/> \$23,950,851 18

# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 710,394 22
Dominion Notes .....	1,230,765 21
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	503,820 72
Balances due from other Banks in Canada ..	295,844 78
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries .....	3,716,315 42
Government Debentures or Stock.....	827,213 53
Immediately available .....	\$ 7,284,353 88
Loans and Bills Discounted .....	15,008,945 13
Bills Discounted Overdue, and not specially Secured .....	213,984 20
Overdue Debts, secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities... ..	133,944 45
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	130,247 20
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	279,376 32
	<u>\$23,950,851 18</u>

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

Toronto, 28th June, 1881.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... W. SIMPSON ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

AVR .....	JOHN WYLLIE .....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	J. S. CARNEGIE .....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE .....	R. THOMSON .....	"
BERLIN .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
BRANTFORD .....	W. ROBERTS .....	"
CHATHAM .....	W. S. IRELAND .....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	E. PANGMAN .....	"
DUNDAS .....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	J. YOUNG .....	"
DURHAM .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	"
GALT .....	W. MANSON .....	"
GODERICH .....	A. M. ROSS .....	"
GUELPH .....	WM. SMITH .....	"
HAMILTON .....	E. MITCHELL .....	"
LONDON .....	D. JUST .....	"
LUCAN .....	F. W. BALL .....	Agent.
NORWICH .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	Manager.
ORANGEVILLE .....	R. T. HAUN .....	"
OTTAWA .....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. JENNINGS .....	"
PETERBORO .....		"
ST. CATHARINES .....	H. C. BARWICK .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET .....	"
SEAFORTH .....	A. H. IRELAND .....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	WM. GRAY .....	"
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL .....	"
THOROLD .....	W. J. ROBERTSON .....	"
TORONTO .....	J. C. KEMP .....	"
" .....	L. BOLSTER .....	Asst. Mgr.
WALKERTON .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	Manager.
WINDSOR .....	J. E. THOMAS .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	F. O. CROSS .....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ J. H. GOADBY .....	} Agents.
	{ B. E. WALKER .....	
CHICAGO .....	A. L. DEWAR .....	Agent

### BANKERS

NEW YORK	THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.
LONDON, ENGLAND	THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 12TH JULY, 1881.

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The President, the Hon. Wm. McMaster, having been called to the chair, it was moved by F. Mackelcan, Esq., Q.C., of Hamilton, seconded by John Waldie, Esq., of Burlington, that the General Manager be appointed Secretary, and that the following gentlemen be appointed to act as scrutineers:—Messrs. James Browne, R. H. Temple and W. G. Cassels.

The Secretary then read the following

### REPORT.

The Directors beg to submit to the Shareholders the result of the year's business now closed, accompanied by a statement of the Assets and Liabilities.

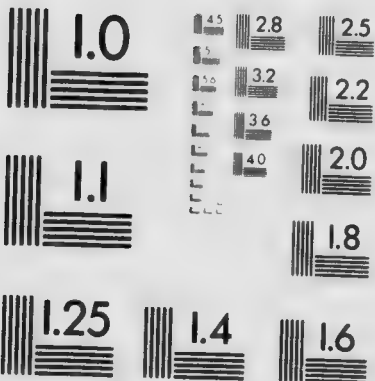
The profits of the twelve months, after deducting charges of management and providing for all the bad and doubtful debts of the year,

amount to..... \$652,333 12



# MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

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(716) 288-5989 Fax

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss	
Account, June, 1880, carried forward .....	\$228,548 25
From which has been transferred to	
Contingent Account .....	175,000 00
	<hr/> 53,548 25
	<hr/> \$705,881 37

Which has been disposed of in the following manner:

Dividend No. 27, payable January, 1881 .....	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 28, payable July, 1881 .....	240,000 00
Transferred to Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts ..	14,396 00
Reserved for accrued Interest on Deposits .....	66,513 98
	<hr/> 560,909 98
Balance remaining at credit of Profit and Loss	
Account .....	<hr/> \$144,971 39

The bountiful harvest of last year, together with the active demand for timber and lumber at greatly increased prices, have produced a marked improvement in almost every branch of industry. In consequence, however, of the large reduction in the value of money, the profits do not bear the same proportion to the extent of business transacted as in former years, but they have enabled your Directors to pay the usual dividend of 8 per cent. and provide for all the bad and doubtful debts of the year, leaving a surplus of \$105,819.14. From this sum \$14,396 has been transferred to reserve for rebate of interest on current discounts, bringing that fund up to \$150,000, which is regarded as sufficient for the purpose, and will not in the meantime require to be further increased. The remaining \$91,423.14 has been carried to Profit and Loss, making that account \$319,971.39. The Directors deemed it



advisable to transfer \$175,000 of this sum to Contingent Account to enable them to deal with certain securities referred to in last year's report, which, after a searching examination and mature consideration, they do not feel warranted in allowing to remain amongst the sound assets of the Bank without making provision for them.

The utmost attention of the Directors has been constantly given to the business of the Bank, not only with the view of guarding against losses, but also to render the funds at their disposal as productive as possible; and they have no hesitation in representing its affairs as being in a perfectly safe and satisfactory condition.

As a natural result of the improved state of trade, the circulation of the Bank has materially increased; and although the Directors were obliged, by the unusual cheapness of money, to reduce the rate of interest on deposits, these also have been considerably augmented.

All the Branches of the Bank, as well as the Head Office, have been inspected; and the Directors have pleasure in recording their approval of the zeal with which its officers have discharged their respective duties.

WM. MCMASTER,

President.

Toronto, 2nd July, 1881.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously:—

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President:

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by F. Mackelcan, Esq., Q.C., of Hamilton, seconded by W. S. Lee, Esq., of Toronto:

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors, for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by J. M. Chafee, Esq., of Eglinton, seconded by P. Patterson, Esq., Governor, British America Assurance Company :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That By-law No. 4 of the By-laws of the Bank be altered to read thus: The number of Directors of the Bank to be elected annually by the Shareholders shall be eight, of whom three shall form a quorum.

Moved by Hon. Adam Hope, of Hamilton, seconded by Noah Barnhart, Esq., of Toronto :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until one o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The Shareholders felt that they could not conclude the proceedings of the meeting without specially referring to the lamented death of Mr. Arthur R. McMaster, one of the Directors of the Bank, an intimate and valued friend of many of the Shareholders, and a gentleman of high standing in the commercial community.

It was accordingly moved by J. M. Chafee, Esq., of Eglinton, seconded by James Michie, Esq., of Toronto :

That the Shareholders present at this meeting record their deep sense of the loss sustained by the Bank by the death of Mr. Arthur R. McMaster.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 12th July, 1881.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

125

HON. WM. MCMASTER  
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.  
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.  
HON. ADAM HOPE

JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.  
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.  
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.  
J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.  
JAMES BROWNE, }  
R. H. TEMPLE, } Scrutineers.  
W. G. CASSELS, }

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster was re-elected President, and Wm. Elliot, Esq., Vice-President, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 12th July, 1881.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	\$1,650,000

---

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER,	PRESIDENT.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESC.	T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.
HON. ADAM HOPE.	GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.	J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.

---

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

J. C. KEMP, Asst. Gen. Manager.

ROBT. GILL, Inspector.

H. A. NICHOLSON, Asst. Inspector.

## GENERAL STATEMENT

AT THE CLOSE OF THE BOOKS ON 27TH JUNE, 1882.

### LIABILITIES

#### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$ 3,333,155 00
Deposits not bearing interest .....	2,712,569 35
Deposits bearing interest .....	12,859,354 77
Due to other Banks in Canada .....	29,236 26
Due to Agencies of the Bank, or to other Banks or Agencies in the United King- dom .....	370,750 84
	<hr/> \$19,305,066 22

#### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$ 6,000,000 00
Rest .....	1,600,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Dis- counts .....	
Reserve for interest on Deposit Receipts and Savings Bank Accounts .....	92,748 37
Dividends unpaid .....	1,271 07
Dividend No. 30, payable 3rd July .....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year .....	58,188 04
	<hr/> 8,190,207 48
	<hr/> <u>\$27,495,273 70</u>



GUELPH, ONT.





# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 943,056 03
Dominion Notes .....	1,220,535 27
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	462,909 86
Balances due from other Banks in Canada ..	253,578 35
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries .....	2,792,719 76
Government Debentures or Stock.....	822,213 53
	<hr/>
	\$ 6,495,012 80
Loans and Bills Discounted .....	20,400,622 15
Bills Discounted Overdue, and not specially Secured .....	94,578 55
Overdue Debts, secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities .....	108,500 00
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank .....	132,440 00
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	264,070 00
	<hr/>
	\$27,400,773 70

(Signed) W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 27th June, 1882.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... W. SIMPSON ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

AYR .....	JOHN WYLLIE .....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	J. S. CARNEGIE .....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE .....	R. THOMSON .....	"
BERLIN .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
BRANTFORD .....	W. ROBERTS .....	"
CHATHAM .....	W. S. IRELAND .....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	E. PANGMAN .....	"
DUNDAS .....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	J. YOUNG .....	"
DURHAM .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	"
GALT .....	B. R. MCCONKEY .....	"
GODERICH .....	A. M. ROSS .....	"
GUELPH .....	WM. SMITH .....	"
HAMILTON .....	E. MITCHELL .....	"
LONDON .....	D. JUST .....	"
LUCAN .....	F. W. BALL .....	Agent.
NORWICH .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	Manager.
ORANGEVILLE .....	R. T. HAUN .....	"
OTTAWA .....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. JENNINGS .....	"
PETERBORO .....	WM. MANSON .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	H. C. BARWICK .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET .....	"
SEAFORTH .....	A. H. IRELAND .....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	WM. GRAY .....	"
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL .....	"
THOROLD .....	W. J. ROBERTSON .....	"
TORONTO .....	J. C. KEMP .....	"
" .....	L. BOLSTER .....	Sub. Mgr.
WALKERTON .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	Manager.
WINDSOR .....	J. E. THOMAS .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	F. O. CROSS .....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ J. H. GOADBY .....	} Agents.
	{ B. E. WALKER .....	
CHICAGO .....	A. L. DEWAR .....	Agent.

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.
LONDON, ENGLAND	THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 11TH JULY, 1882.

On motion of Wm. Elliot, Esq., seconded by Hon. Adam Hope, of Hamilton, the Hon. Wm. McMaster, President, was called to the chair.

It was moved by F. Mackelcan, Esq., Q.C., Hamilton, seconded by W. T. Boyd, Esq., Toronto:

That the General Manager be appointed Secretary, and that Messrs. James Browne and Walter G. Cassels do act as Scrutineers.

The Secretary then read the following

### REPORT.

The Directors beg to submit, for the information of the Shareholders, the result of the year's business closed in June, 1882.

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, June, 1881, carried forward.....	\$144,971 39
The Profits of the twelve months, after deducting charges of management, and providing for all the bad and doubtful debts of the year, amount to .....	758,965 02
	<hr/>
	\$903,936 41

Which has been disposed of in the following manner :

Dividend No. 29, payable January,	
1882 .....	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 30, payable July, 1882	240,000 00
Written off Bank Premises and Fur-	
niture Account.....	25,000 00
Carried to Rest Account .....	250,000 00
Reserved for accrued interest on de-	
posits.....	90,748 37
	<hr/>
	845,748 37
Balance remaining at credit of Profit and Loss	
Account .....	\$58,188 04
	<hr/>

Under the influence of an active demand for the staple products of the country, the improvement in trade referred to in the last Annual Report has continued, and although the rates obtained for money have not materially improved, the profits of the Bank have been satisfactory.

The business at the Head Office and Branches has been well maintained, the deposits, circulation and profits have steadily improved, and the losses of the year, which were small, have been fully provided for.

Such appropriations as were found necessary in connection with the doubtful assets referred to in last year's report have been made, and the sum carried to Contingent Account twelve months ago, has been wholly applied to that purpose.

The Shareholders will be pleased to observe that besides applying \$25,000 to the reduction of the Bank Premises Account, the sum of \$250,000 has been transferred to the Rest, which now amounts to \$1,650,000, and the Directors look forward with confidence to the steady augmentation of this fund from the future operations of the Bank.

All the Offices of the Bank have been thoroughly inspected during the year, and the Directors have pleasure

in bearing testimony to the zeal with which the members of the staff have continued to discharge their respective duties.

Your Directors, while making no pretensions to forecast the future, would direct the attention of their successors to the marked increase that has taken place in the discounts, loans, and circulation of the Banks generally, as well as to other signs of expansion, such as prevailed previous to the recent years of depression. These suggestive indications call for the exercise of more than ordinary caution on the part of those charged with the management of financial institutions.

WM. MCMASTER,

President.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,

Toronto, 11th July, 1882.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by F. Mackelcan, Esq., Q.C., Hamilton, seconded by W. S. Lee, Esq., Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by John Waldie, Esq., Merchant, Burlington, seconded by W. G. Cassels, Esq., Toronto :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by John J. Arnton, Esq., Montreal, seconded by James Michie, Esq., Merchant, Toronto :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for

## THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.  
Toronto, 11th July, 1882.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :

HON. WM. MCMASTER  
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.  
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.  
JAMES MICHIE, ESQ.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.  
HON. ADAM HOPE  
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.  
J. J. ARNTON, ESQ.

Your very obedient servants,

(Signed), JAMES BROWNE,  
W. G. CASSELS, } Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster and Wm. Elliot, Esq., were re-elected President and Vice-President, respectively, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.  
Toronto, 11th July, 1882.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

---

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

---

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	\$1,900,000

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## *DIRECTORS :*

HON. WM. MCMASTER,	-	-	PRESIDENT.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.,	-	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.			JOHN WALDIE, ESQ.
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.			HON. S. C. WOOD.
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.			JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.

---

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

J. C. KEMP, Asst. Gen. Manager.

ROBT. GILL, Inspector.

H. A. NICHOLSON, Asst. Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

AT THE CLOSE OF THE BOOKS ON 23RD JUNE, 1883.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$ 3,167,317 00
Deposits not bearing interest .....	2,327,069 11
Deposits bearing interest .....	11,407,707 67
Interest accrued on Deposit Receipts and Savings Bank Accounts.....	72,365 13
Due to other Banks in Canada .....	143,860 37
Due to Agencies of the Bank, or to other Banks or Agencies in the United Kingdom.....	567,282 75
	<hr/> \$17,685,602 03

### *To the Shareholder..*

Capital paid-up.....	\$ 6,000,000 00
Rest.....	1,900,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts.....	150,000 00
Dividends unpaid.....	1,365 07
Dividend No. 32, payable 3rd July .....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year .....	67,550 90
	<hr/> 8,358,915 97
	<hr/> <u>\$26,044,518 00</u>



# ASSETS

Specie.....	\$ 750,684 58
Dominion Notes.....	1,211,587 32
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	528,464 14
Balances due from other Banks in Canada..	273,227 49
Balances due from Agencies of the Bank, or from other Banks or Agencies in foreign countries..	1,799,044 86
Government Debentures or Stock.....	977,213 53
	<u>\$ 5,540,221 92</u>
Loans and Bills Discounted.....	19,869,394 05
Bills Discounted Overdue, and not specially Secured.....	144,448 82
Overdue Debts, secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities	131,166 09
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank .....	92,117 02
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	267,170 10
	<u><u>\$26,044,518 00</u></u>

(Signed) W. ANDERSON, General Manager.  
THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 23rd June, 18

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTRFAL ..... W. SIMPSON ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

AYR ..	JOHN WYLLIE.....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	W. GRAY .....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE.....	R. THOMSON.....	"
BERLIN .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
BRANTFORD .....	W. ROBERTS .....	"
CHATHAM .....	W. S. IRELAND .....	"
COLLINGWOOD.....	E. PANGMAN .....	"
DUNDAS.....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	J. YOUNG .....	"
GALT .....	B. R. MCCONKEY .....	"
GODERICH .....	A. M. ROSS.....	"
GUELPH.....	WM. SMITH .....	"
HAMILTON .....	E. MITCHELL .....	"
LONDON .....	D. JUST .....	"
LUCAN .....	F. W. BALL.....	Agent.
NORWICH.....	W. A. SAMPSON.....	Manager.
ORANGEVILLE .....	R. T. HAUN .....	"
OTTAWA .....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. JENNINGS.....	"
PETERBORO .....	WM. MANSON .....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	F. L. HANKEY.....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SEAFORTH.....	A. H. IRELAND .....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	W. MAYNARD, JR.....	"
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL.....	"
THOROLD.....	W. J. ROBERTSON.....	"
TORONTO .....	J. C. KEMP .....	"
" .....	L. BOLSTER .....	Sub Mgr.
WALKERTON .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	Manager.
WINDSOR .....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
WOODSTOCK.....	F. O. CROSS .....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK.....	( J. H. GOADBY .....	} Agents.
	( B. E. WALKER.....	
CHICAGO .....	A. L. DEWAR .....	Agent.

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	-	THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.
LONDON, ENGLAND		THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 10TH JULY, 1883.

The President, the Hon. Wm. McMaster, having been called to the chair,

It was moved by David McGee, Esq., seconded by John Waldie, Esq., that the General Manager be appointed Secretary, and that Messrs. W. G. Cassels and James Browne do act as Scrutineers.

The Secretary then read the following

## REPORT.

In conformity with the provisions of the Banking Act, the Directors beg to submit to the Shareholders the result of the year's business closed in June, 1883.

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account,  
June, 1882, carried forward.....\$ 58,188 04

The profits of the twelve months, after deducting  
charges of management, interest accrued on  
deposits, and providing for all the bad and  
doubtful debts of the year, amount to ..... 774,362 86  
\$832,550 90

Which has been disposed of in the following manner :

Dividend No. 31, paid January, 1883..	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 32, payable July, 1883	240,000 00
Appropriation for Bank Premises and Furniture . . . . .	35,000 00
Carried to Rest Account . . . . .	250,000 00
	<hr/> 765,000 00
Balance remaining at credit of Profit and Loss Account . . . . .	<u>\$67,550 90</u>

It will be observed from the foregoing statement that a profitable business has been done during the past year, the net earnings being \$106,000 in excess of the previous twelve months. These profits might have been increased, but in advising with reference to the management of the Bank, the Board have been constantly influenced rather by considerations of safety than of large profits, which are usually attended with more than ordinary risk; and should the prosperity experienced in different branches of industry for some time past be followed by a period of depression, of which there are already some indications in financial circles, the wisdom of this policy will then become more apparent.

The losses during the year—which were comparatively small—have been provided for; the sum of \$250,000 has been added to the Rest, increasing that fund to \$1,900,000; \$35,000 has been written off Bank Furniture and Premises; and the remaining \$67,550.90 is at the credit of Profit and Loss Account.

The business of the Branches has been kept well in hand; they have all been thoroughly inspected, and the Directors are pleased to state that the leading officers of the Bank, the Agents and other members of the staff generally, have discharged their respective duties in a satisfactory manner.

The Directors have to record with much regret the death of their late highly esteemed colleagues, the Hon. Adam

Hope and Mr. James Michie, who were widely known and much respected. Both took a lively interest in the affairs of the Bank, and were always ready to place their time and influence at its disposal. The vacancies created on the Board by their decease were filled by the election of Mr. John Waldie, who has been long a Shareholder, and the Honourable S. C. Wood, the late Treasurer of Ontario.

The Directors also regret that Mr. John J. Arnton, another member of the Board, who rendered valuable service to the Bank in connection with the Branch in Montreal, has been obliged by impaired health to retire, and the name of a gentleman to fill his place will be submitted for the approval of the Shareholders.

(Signed) WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 10th July, 1883.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously:—

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by David McGee, Esq., seconded by W. G. Cassels, Esq. :

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors, for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by William Elliot, Esq., seconded by James Browne, Esq. :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager, and other officials of the Bank, for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by the Hon. S. C. Wood, seconded by T. S. Stayner, Esq. :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 10th July, 1883.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager.

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year :

HON. WM. MCMASTER

WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

NOAH BARNHART, ESQ.

T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

JOHN WALDIE, ESQ.

HON. S. C. WOOD

JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.

Your obedient servants,

(Signed) W. G. CASSELS, } Scrutineers.  
JAMES BROWNE, }

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster and Wm. Elliot, Esq., were re-elected President and Vice-President, respectively, by a unanimous vote.

(Signed) W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 10th July, 1883.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	- . . . .	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	- . . . .	\$6,000,000
REST	- . . . .	\$2,000,000

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## DIRECTORS:

HON. WM. MCMASTER,	- . . . .	PRESIDENT.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.,	- . . . .	VICE-PRESIDENT.
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.		HON. S. C. WOOD
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.		JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.
JOHN WALDIE, ESQ.		W. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.

---

W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.	
J. C. KEMP, Asst. Gen. Manager.	
ROBT. GILL, Inspector.	H. A. NICHOLSON, Asst. Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

21ST JUNE, 1884.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$ 2,554,773 00
Deposits not bearing interest .....	1,855,160 98
Deposits bearing interest .....	9,679,913 61
Interest accrued on Deposit Receipts and	
Savings Bank Accounts .....	74,140 76
Due to other Banks in Canada .....	152,362 75
Due to Agencies of the Bank, and to other	
Banks in Great Britain .....	199,057 70
	<hr/> \$14,515,408 80

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$ 6,000,000 00
Reserve .....	2,000,000 00
Contingent Fund .....	75,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current	
Discounts .....	150,000 00
Dividends unpaid .....	1,517 07
Dividend No. 34, payable 2nd July .....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried	
forward to next half year .....	48,470 55
	<hr/> 8,514,987 62
	<hr/> \$23,030,396 42





HALIFAX, N. S.  
Under construction



# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 681,471 93
Dominion Notes .....	1,032,528 31
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks .....	430,805 47
Balance due from other Banks in Canada .....	289,777 02
Balance due from Agencies of the Bank in the United States .....	1,408,587 10
British Consols, Dominion of Canada Stock and United States Bonds .....	944,913 05
	<hr/> \$4,788,082 88
Loans, Discounts and Advances on Current Account .....	17,420,995 62
Bills Discounted Overdue, and not specially Secured .....	98,461 95
Overdue Debts, secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank .....	306,027 48
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	133,600 47
	283,228 02
	<hr/> \$43,030,396 42

(Signed) W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 21st June, 1884.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... W. SIMPSON ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

AYR .....	JOHN WYLLIE .....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	W. GRAY .....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE .....	R. THOMSON .....	"
BERLIN .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
BRANTFORD .....	W. ROBERTS .....	"
CHATHAM .....	J. E. THOMAS .....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	E. PANGMAN .....	"
DUNDAS .....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	J. M. DUFF .....	"
GALT .....	B. R. MCCONKEY .....	"
GODERICH .....	R. S. WILLIAMS .....	"
GUELPH .....	WM. SMITH .....	"
HAMILTON .....	E. MITCHELL .....	"
LONDON .....	D. JUST .....	"
NORWICH .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	R. T. HAUN .....	"
OTTAWA .....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. JENNINGS .....	"
PARKHILL .....	B. SHEPHERD .....	"
PETERBORO .....	WM. MANSON .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	F. L. HANKEY .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET .....	"
SEAFORTH .....	A. H. IRELAND .....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	W. MAYNARD, JR. ....	"
STRATHROY .....	J. S. SMALL .....	"
THOROLD .....	W. J. ROBERTSON .....	"
TORONTO .....	J. C. KEMP .....	"
" .....	L. BOLSTER .....	Sub Mgr.
WALKERTON .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	Manager.
WINDSOR .....	C. M. STORK .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	F. O. CROSS .....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ J. H. GOADBY .....	} Agents.
	{ B. E. WALKER .....	
CHICAGO .....	A. L. DEWAR .....	Agent.

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.
LONDON, ENGLAND	THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 8TH JULY, 1884.

The President, the Hon. Wm. McMaster, having been called to the chair, it was moved by John Waldie, Esq., seconded by David McGee, Esq., that the General Manager be appointed Secretary, and that Messrs. W. G. Cassels and James Browne do act as Scrutineers.

The Secretary then read the following

### REPORT.

The Directors beg to submit to the Shareholders the result of the year's business ending in June, 1884, with a statement of the Assets and Liabilities:—

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account,  
June, 1883, carried forward.....\$ 67,550 90

The profits of the year, after deducting charges  
of management, interest accrued on deposits,  
and providing for bad and doubtful debts,  
amount to ..... 635,919 65

\$703,470 55

Which has been disposed of in the following manner:

Dividend No. 33, payable Jan., 1884.	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 34, payable July, 1884.	240,000 00
Carried to Rest Account .....	100,000 00
Placed at credit of Contingent Fund	
Account .....	75,000 00
	<hr/> 655,000 00
Balance remaining at credit of Profit and Loss	
Account .....	\$ 48,470 55

It will be observed from the statement submitted that the profits of the year enabled the Directors to pay the usual dividend of 8 per cent., provide for doubtful and bad debts, leaving a surplus of \$155,919.65. This would have been wholly available towards increasing the Rest, but there being some uncertainty as to the amount likely to be realized from securities held by the Bank on account of the liability of a company now in process of liquidation, the Directors determined to provide for the same at once, and have therefore transferred \$75,000 to Contingent Account, which sum is regarded as being sufficient for the purpose. The sum of \$100,000 has been added to the Rest, increasing that Fund to \$2,000,000, and the remaining \$48,470.55 is at the credit of Profit and Loss Account.

The large deficiency in the crops of last year, and the unsatisfactory condition of some of the principal manufacturing industries of the country have naturally resulted in a restriction of the Bank's business; its profits nevertheless have been fairly well maintained.

The customary inspections of the Head Office, Branches and Agencies of the Bank, have been carefully made during the year, and the Directors have pleasure in stating that the officials of the Bank have performed their respective duties in a satisfactory manner.

(Signed) WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 8th July, 1884.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :—

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, seconded by E. H. Rutherford, Esq. :

That the thanks of the meeting are due, and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors, for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by David McGee, Esq., seconded by W. G. Cassels, Esq. :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by Hon. S. C. Wood, seconded by Wm. Elliot, Esq. :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :—

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 8th July, 1884.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager.

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year, viz. :—

ON. WM. MCMASTER  
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.  
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.  
GEO. TAYLOR, ESQ.

JOHN WALDIE, ESQ.  
HON. S. C. WOOD  
JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.  
W. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.

Your obedient servants,

W. G. CASSELS,  
JAMES BROWNE, } Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster and Wm. Elliot, Esq., were re-elected President and Vice-President, respectively, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 8th July, 1884.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

---

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

---

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPIT'L PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	\$2,100,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

HON. WM. MCMASTER, -	-	-	PRESIDENT.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ., -	-	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.			HON. S. C. WOOD
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.			JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.
JOHN WALDIE, ESQ.			W. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.

---

**W. N. ANDERSON**, General Manager.

**J. C. KEMP**, Asst. General Manager.

**ROBERT GILL**, Inspector.

**F. L. HANKEY**, Asst. Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

22ND JUNE, 1885.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 2,461,950 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	1,850,128 45
Deposits bearing interest .....	8,579,931 03
Interest accrued on Deposit Receipts and Savings Bank Accounts.....	67,183 58
Due to other Banks in Canada .....	42,516 16
Due to Agencies of the Bank, and to other Banks in Great Britain.....	441,396 58
	<u>\$13,443,105 80</u>

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$ 6,000,000 00
Rest.....	2,100,000 00
Contingent Fund .....	150,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Discounts .....	150,000 00
Unclaimed Dividends.....	1,909 07
Dividend No. 36, payable 2nd July .....	240,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year.....	24,192 07
	<u>8,666,101 14</u>
	<u>\$22,109,206 94</u>

# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 492,524 04
Dominion Notes.....	934,821 50
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	433,909 19
Balance due from other Banks in Canada. . .	112,786 39
Balance due from Agencies of the Bank in the United States.....	1,652,394 28
British Consols, Dominion of Canada Stock, and United States Bonds .....	941,574 31
	<hr/> \$4,568,209 71
Loans, Discounts, and Advances on Current Account.....	16,739,972 04
Bills Discounted Overdue, and not specially Secured .....	73,178 09
Overdue Debts, secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities	335,188 87
Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank.....	108,341 24
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	284,516 99
	<hr/> \$22,109,206 94

(Signed) W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 22nd June, 1885.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL.....W. SIMPSON.....Manager.

### ONTARIO—

AYR .....	JOHN WYLLIE.....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	W. GRAY .....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE.....	R. THOMSON .....	"
BERLIN .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
BRANTFORD.....	W. ROBERTS .....	"
CHATHAM .....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	E. PANGMAN.....	"
DUNDAS.....	W. SMITH.....	"
DUNNVILLE.....	F. C. MINTY.....	"
GALT .....	W. THOMPSON.....	"
GODERICH.....	R. S. WILLIAMS.....	"
GUELPH.....	B. R. MCCONKEY.....	"
HAMILTON .....	E. MITCHELL.....	"
LONDON .....	H. A. NICHOLSON.....	"
NORWICH .....	W. A. SAMPSON.....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	B. SHEPHERD.....	"
OTTAWA .....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. JENNINGS.....	"
PARKHILL.....	M. DUFF .....	"
PETERBORO .....	WM. MANSON.....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SEAFORTH.....	A. H. IRELAND.....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD.....	W. MAYNARD, JR.....	"
STRATHROY.....	J. S. SMALL.....	"
THOROLD.....	W. J. ROBERTSON.....	"
TORONTO.....	J. C. KEMP .....	"
" .....	L. BOLSTER.....	Sub Mgr.
WALKERTON .....	J. R. CLARKE.....	Manager.
WINDSOR .....	C. M. STORK .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	D. H. CHARLES.....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ J. H. GOADBY..... }	Agents.
	{ B. E. WALKER..... }	
CHICAGO .....	{ A. L. DEWAR..... }	Agent.
	{ A. LAIRD..... }	

### BANKERS:

NEW YORK	THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.
LONDON, ENGLAND	THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 14TH JULY, 1885.

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The President, the Hon. Wm. McMaster, having been called to the chair, it was moved by David McGee, Esq., seconded by T. S. Stayner, Esq., that the General Manager be appointed Secretary, and that Messrs. James Browne and W. G. Cassels do act as Scrutineers.

The Secretary then read the following

### REPORT.

The Directors beg to submit to the Shareholders of the Bank the following statements for the year ended 22nd June, 1885 :—

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, June, 1885, carried forward.....	\$ 48,470 55
The profits of the year, after deducting charges of management, interest accrued on deposits, and providing for bad and doubtful debts, amount to .....	630,721 52
	<hr/>
	\$679,192 07

Which has been disposed of in the following manner:—

Dividend No. 35, paid January, 1885.	\$240,000 00
Dividend No. 36, payable July, 1885	240,000 00
Carried to Rest Account .....	100,000 00
Placed at credit of Contingent Fund Account .....	75,000 00
	<hr/> 655,000 00
Balance remaining at credit of Profit and Loss Account .....	\$ 24,192 07

The favourable results anticipated from the excellent harvest of last year have not been realized, and the depression in business has been very general. These adverse circumstances are largely attributable to the low prices of produce and timber, the stagnation that has prevailed in manufacturing industries, and the absence of activity in almost every branch of trade. This state of things pointed to the necessity for extreme caution in the management of the Bank's affairs, and consequently its operations have been somewhat restricted. The profits, however, after providing for the bad and doubtful debts of the year—which were moderate in amount—have enabled the Directors to pay the usual dividend of eight per cent. and add \$100,000 to the Rest Account.

The liquidation of the estate alluded to in the last Annual Report, and of some other matters of former years not yet completed, has rendered necessary a further appropriation to the Contingent Account, and the Directors have accordingly increased that fund by the sum of \$75,000, leaving a balance at the credit of Profit and Loss Account of \$24,192.07.

The usual inspections of the Branches and Agencies of the Bank have been made during the year, and the Directors have pleasure in stating that the officers of the Bank generally have discharged their respective duties in a satisfactory manner.

(Signed) WM. MCMASTER,  
President.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously :—

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President :

That the Report of the Directors now read be adopted, and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

Moved by W. A. Robinson, Esq., seconded by F. Mackelcan, Esq. :

That the thanks of the meeting are due, and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by E. H. Rutherford, Esq., seconded by David McGee, Esq. :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by John Waldie, Esq., seconded by W. B. Hamilton, Esq. :

That the ballot-box be now opened, and remain open until two o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers presented the following Report :—

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 14th July, 1885.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager.

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year, viz. :—

HON. WM. MCMASTER

WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

W. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.

Your obedient servants,

JOHN WALDIE, ESQ.

T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.

HON. S. C. WOOD

JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.

JAMES BROWNE,

W. G. CASSELS,

} Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, the Hon. Wm. McMaster and Wm. Elliot, Esq., were re-elected President and Vice-President, respectively, by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 14th July, 1885.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	\$1,600,000

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## DIRECTORS:

HENRY W. DARLING, ESQ.,	-	PRESIDENT.
WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.,	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
HON WM. MCMASTER		JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.
T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.		HON. S. C. WOOD
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.		JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.
GEO. A. COX, ESQ.		W. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.

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W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.  
J. C. KEMP, Asst. General Manager.  
ALEX. LAIRD, Inspector.

## GENERAL STATEMENT

26TH JUNE, 1886.

### LIABILITIES

#### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$2,308,963 00
Deposits not bearing interest .....	2,094,891 78
Deposits bearing interest .....	8,856,434 09
Interest accrued on Deposit Receipts and Savings Bank Accounts.....	61,373 33
Balances due other Banks in Canada.....	67,610 00
Balances due Agents in Great Britain.....	406,819 70
	<hr/> \$13,796,091 90

#### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest .....	1,600,000 00
Contingent Fund.....	150,000 00
Reserve for rebate of interest on Current Dis- counts .....	150,000 00
Unclaimed Dividends.....	2,165 32
Dividend No. 38 payable 2nd July .....	210,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward to next half year.....	21,829 04
	<hr/> 8,133,994 36
	<hr/> <u>\$21,930,086 26</u>



**HAMILTON, ONT.**

Formerly the Head Office of the Gore Bank  
Amalgamated with The Canadian Bank of Commerce 1869



# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 598,677 78
Dominion Notes .....	1,345,212 25
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	422,579 63
Balances due by other Banks in Canada ....	149,039 11
Balances due by Agents of the Bank in the United States.....	1,666,198 82
British Consols, Dominion of Canada Stock, and United States Bonds .....	941,574 31
	<hr/>
	\$5,123,281 90
Loans, Discounts, and Advances on Current Account.....	16,200,027 70
Bills Discounted Overdue, and not specially Secured .....	57,114 36
Overdue Debts, secured by Mortgage or other Deed on Real Estate, or by Deposit of or Lien on Stock, or by other Securities Real Estate, the property of the Bank (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages on Real Estate sold by the Bank .....	156,093 28
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	103,436 88
	290,132 14
	<hr/>
	\$21,930,086 26

(Signed) W. N. ANDERSON, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 26th June, 1886.

## BRANCHES

QUEREC—

MONTREAL.....ROBERT GILL.....Manager.

**ONTARIO—**

AYR	JOHN WYLLIE	Agent.
BARRIE	W. GRAY	Manager.
BELLEVILLE	R. THOMSON	"
BERLIN	D. B. DEWAR	"
BRANTFORD	W. ROBERTS	"
CHATHAM	J. E. THOMAS	"
COLLINGWOOD	E. PANGMAN	"
DUNDAS	W. SMITH	"
DUNNVILLE	F. C. MINTY	"
GALT	W. THOMPSON	"
GODERICH	R. S. WILLIAMS	"
GUELPH	B. P. MCCONKEY	"
HAMILTON	E. MITCHELL	"
JARVIS	H. J. GRASETT	Agent.
LONDON	H. A. NICHOLSON	Manager.
NORWICH	W. A. SAMPSON	"
ORANGEVILLE	B. SHEPHERD	"
OTTAWA	JEFFERY HALE	"
PARIS	R. C. JENNINGS	"
PARKHILL	J. M. DUFF	"
PETERBORO	WM. MANSON	"
ST. CATHARINES	F. O. CROSS	"
SARNIA	T. W. NISBET	"
SEAFORTH	A. H. IRELAND	"
SIMCOE	E. COWDRY	"
STRATFORD	W. MAYNARD, JR.	"
STRATHROY	J. S. SMALL	"
THOROLD	W. J. ROBERTSON	"
TORONTO	J. C. KEMP	"
"	L. BOLSTER	Sub Mgr.
WALKERTON	J. R. CLARKE	Manager.
WINDSOR	C. M. STORK	"
WOODSTOCK	D. H. CHARLES	"

UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK.....{ J. H. GOADBY..... } Agents.  
                                  { B. E. WALKER..... }

**BANKERS:**

NEW YORK THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.  
LONDON, ENGLAND THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### NINETEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
AT NOON ON TUESDAY, 13TH JULY, 1886.

The President, Hon. Wm. McMaster, having been called to the chair, it was moved by Hon. S. C. Wood, seconded by W. B. Hamilton, Esq., that the General Manager be appointed Secretary, and that Messrs. Henry Pellatt, R. S. Cassels and James Browne do act as Scrutineers.

The Secretary then read the following

## REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the 19th Annual Report, accompanied by the usual Statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Bank, at the close of the financial year:—

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, carried forward from June, 1885.....	\$ 24,192 07
The net profits of the year ended 26th June, 1886, after deducting charges of management and making appropriations to cover all bad and doubtful debts sustained during the year, amount to .....	557,636 97
	<u>\$581,829 04</u>

## Deduct—

Dividend No. 37, paid January, 1886.	\$210,000 00	
Dividend No. 38, payable July, 1886.	210,000 00	
		420,000 00
		<u>\$161,829 04</u>
Transferred from Rest Account .....	500,000 00	
		<u>\$661,829 04</u>
Appropriated for bad and doubtful debts.....	\$490,000 00	
Placed at credit of Contingent Fund.	150,000 00	
		<u>640,000 00</u>
Balance remaining at credit of Profit and Loss Account .....	\$ 21,829 04	

Notwithstanding the absence of any material improvement in the condition of business generally, and the low and declining rates obtainable upon loans, the profits of the twelve months ending in June, have been fairly satisfactory; so much so, that under ordinary circumstances they would have been amply sufficient for the continuance of our usual 8 per cent. dividend. Your Directors, however, in view of the serious shrinkage resulting from the liquidation of securities acquired from several estates of considerable magnitude, determined, although with much reluctance, to reduce the rate of dividend from 8 to 7 per cent. for the time being; and in order fully to cover the losses sustained in this connection, together with probable losses, and all shrinkages in values of securities held by the Head Office and Branches, have taken from the Rest Account the sum of \$350,000.

The disturbing effects which such appropriations are apt to create in the minds of Shareholders render it very desirable that provision should be made, apart from the Rest Account, for any contingency that may arise. It is also important that the fear of affecting the Rest may not deter the management from dealing promptly with any risks that may assume an unsatisfactory character. The Directors have



therefore transferred from that fund to Contingent Account the further sum of \$150,000, thus leaving the Rest \$1,600,000, or 26 $\frac{2}{3}$  per cent. on the capital of the Bank.

The Directors are pleased to be in a position to assure the Shareholders, with the utmost confidence, that the business of the Bank is thoroughly sound, legitimate and active; and its ample financial resources are such as will enable their successors to take advantage of any improvement that may take place in the trade of the country.

Having regard to the marked change in the value of money in Chicago, and the fact that the profits could not be made to bear any reasonable proportion to the expenses connected with the Agency, unless a much larger amount of the Bank's capital were assigned to the Agents than the Directors thought it prudent to place there, they felt that it would be in the interest of the Shareholders to withdraw from Chicago, which was readily accomplished, as the securities held for the Bank's advances were such as to admit of the Agency being wound up on short notice.

The branches of the Bank have been inspected during the year as usual; and the Directors are pleased to state that its officers generally have discharged their respective duties in a satisfactory manner.

(Signed), WM. MCMASTER,

President.

Toronto, 2nd July, 1886.

The following resolutions were then put and carried unanimously:—

Moved by the President, seconded by the Vice-President:

That the report of the Directors now read be adopted and printed for the information of the Shareholders.

In moving this resolution the President spoke as follows:

The information with reference to the position of the Bank, which it is the duty of the Directors to lay before the Shareholders on the occasion of the Annual Meeting, has been so fully set forth in the Report and accompanying

Financial Statement, that I have but little to add. You may, however, desire further particulars with reference to the considerations that influenced the Directors in deciding to reduce the dividend to seven per cent., which shall be readily given.

Our losses on current business during the last and previous twelve months were comparatively small, and the earnings of the year that closed in June were sufficient for an eight per cent. dividend, which, under the circumstances, might have been paid.

In order to a correct understanding as to how our position became somewhat changed, it is necessary to refer specially to certain liabilities which turned out very differently from what we had reason to expect.

When alluding in last year's report to the transfer of \$75,000 to Contingent Account, increasing that fund to \$150,000, we intimated that this was done for the purpose of covering the loss on the British Canadian Timber and Lumber Company's account, and some other matters of former years still in process of liquidation.

At that time the principal security held for the Timber and Lumber account consisted of 765 miles of timber limits in the Province of Quebec, which were represented by the Company as being worth \$700,000; together with stores of various kinds estimated at \$190,000. Some time after these assets passed into the hands of Trustees appointed to manage the business, and if necessary to wind it up. They estimated the value of the limits, including some stores, at \$250,000. These limits were subsequently sold by public auction in Ottawa, where the audience was large and the bidding spirited, at a price that netted \$158,650. One portion of this was claimed by another bank and ore by the holders of debentures in Scotland. The result was that instead of there being a considerable amount of the Contingent Fund available for other purposes, it fell short of covering the debt of the Timber and Lumber Company alone.

Another liability to which allusion has been made arose with certain accounts which had for years been conducted in a satisfactory manner. The parties were uniformly reported to be highly respectable, and to be possessed of large means, and were in fact perfectly responsible for such facilities as the Bank at any time afforded them, provided these had been employed in the legitimate channels of their ordinary business. It was, however, discovered that during the period of wild speculation in the North-west they had become parties to large ventures in Winnipeg property and North-west land and land securities, and had used the Bank's means for these purposes. Upon the demand of the Bank the debtors furnished security principally on real estate in Manitoba and Ontario, which to all appearance at the time afforded reasonable margin over and above the Bank's claim. But the utter collapse of values in the North-west, and the depreciation that ensued in the price of property in the western part of Ontario, especially in towns, rendered the process of liquidation tedious and very disappointing, and the ultimate result was that a considerable loss has been sustained.

We took credit to ourselves at a former meeting for declining to respond to many urgent applications to open branches in Winnipeg and other places in Manitoba, which we did, believing that until the North-west became more of an exporting country there was no legitimate business for the number of banks that had already opened there. But while our policy saved the Bank from direct losses in Manitoba, we have not entirely escaped the unfortunate results that overtook the parties who, regardless of the consequences to others, speculated largely in that country.

Now, gentlemen, looking to this loss, looking also to the fact that the Contingent Fund was entirely absorbed by the Timber and Lumber Company's account, leaving the accounts referred to in last year's Report as being in liquidation unprovided for, looking also to the reduction in the rate of interest and the downward tendency of money generally, I

cannot help thinking that on reflection you will regard the action of the Directors in reducing the dividend and making provision for bad and doubtful debts as being judicious and wise under the circumstances.

In dealing with the appropriations, two classes of debts, *bad* and *doubtful*, had to be considered. From the former little if anything can be expected. From the latter considerable may be secured, as the Directors in their determination to make the most ample provision for losses, have probably estimated some of the items below their value.

With reference to the \$150,000 placed at the credit of Contingent Account, this I regard as being a very desirable appropriation, as, in the absence of such a fund, the natural tendency of the management is to delay dealing with doubtful accounts, hoping that they may improve. In most cases, however, the reverse is the result.

A word with reference to our business in Chicago. When we first opened there, the rate of interest ruled at from 8 to 9 per cent., but Chicago having become to a great extent the centre of financial operations for the Western States, money is almost as cheap there as in New York; and if the Government tax be added to the ordinary expenses, it will be found, as stated in the Report, that unless a much larger amount of the Bank's capital were assigned to the Agents in Chicago than the Directors deemed it prudent to place there, the profits could not be made to bear any reasonable proportion to the expenses.

Having referred to the different subjects of importance embraced in the Report, I desire to make an announcement bearing upon my future individual relations to the Bank.

Admonished by my advancing years and the state of my health of the necessity of comparative rest, I have decided to withdraw from the Presidency of the Bank. I do so with the less hesitation, inasmuch as the position of the Bank's affairs will, I feel assured, satisfy all reasonable anticipations on the part of the Shareholders, who may look forward to its future with every confidence.

I am a large holder of the Bank's shares, but apart from this consideration, in view of my long connection with the institution, I will always feel a lively interest in its success, and if my experience is regarded of any value to the Shareholders, they can have my services as a Director so long as my health permits. But I shall refer to this subject more fully at a further stage of the proceedings, when I purpose to move an amendment to one of our by-laws, with a view to the strengthening of the Board.

Moved by the President, and seconded by the Vice-President, that the following by-law be passed, namely :—

BY-LAW NO. 29.

The Shareholders of the Canadian Bank of Commerce enact as follows :—

1. The number of Directors of the Bank to be elected annually by the Shareholders shall be ten, of whom three shall constitute a quorum.
2. Section 4 of the by-laws of the Bank, passed on the 12th day of July, 1881, is hereby repealed, and section 7 is hereby amended by the insertion of the words "ten Directors," in lieu of the words "eight Directors," where the same occur.
3. The by-laws of the said Bank passed on the 12th day of July, 1881, as hereby amended, are hereby re-enacted and confirmed.

In moving the adoption of this resolution the President remarked that he had taken occasion lately, in view of the condition of his own health, and the increasing age of several of his co-Directors, to impress upon them the necessity for strengthening the Board by the introduction of new men, and he was pleased to be able to submit for their approval the name of Mr. Henry W. Darling, the President of the Board of Trade, as one having a large and varied experience of mercantile matters, well known to this community as a man of high character and financial ability, and who, he felt

assured, would render good service to the Bank. Also the name of Mr. George A. Cox, of Peterboro, who had given abundant evidence of mercantile skill, the architect of his own fortune, and who, in many ways, would be a great acquisition to the Directorate, and he had every confidence in commending these to the favourable consideration of the Shareholders as coadjutors.

Moved by Edward Martin, Esq., Q.C., Hamilton, seconded by George Roach, Esq., Hamilton :

That the thanks of the meeting are due, and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Mr. Edward Martin, Q.C., of Hamilton, in moving the resolution, commended the President and Directors for their courage and prudence in frankly admitting the losses that had unfortunately been made, and in making provision for them. The Shareholders were under a deep debt of gratitude to the President for the attention he had given to the affairs of the Bank since its incorporation, which had been of the most assiduous, unselfish and devoted character. While no one would grudge him his well-earned rest, which the state of his health demanded, it was gratifying to know the Bank would still have the benefit of his experience and counsel as a Director. The President was to be congratulated upon the choice he had made of new Directors. He had known Mr. Darling intimately since he began his business career in Hamilton. He had been a success there, and a still greater success in Toronto, and he felt satisfied no more desirable man could be found for the position. The reputation and business ability of Mr. Cox was also well known throughout the Province, and such an addition to the Directorate could not fail to be advantageous to the Bank.

Moved by Wm. Hendrie, Esq., Hamilton, seconded by F. Mackelcan, Esq., Q.C., Hamilton :

That the thanks of the meeting be also tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager, and other officials of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Moved by George A. Cox, Esq., Peterboro, seconded by Hon. S. C. Wood, that the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until 2 o'clock this day for the receipt of ballot tickets for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The scrutineers then presented the following Report :

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, July 13th, 1886.

W. N. ANDERSON, ESQ., General Manager :

We, the undersigned scrutineers, appointed at the general meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held this day, hereby declare the following gentlemen duly elected Directors for the ensuing year, namely :—

HON. WM. MCMASTER

WM. ELLIOT, ESQ.

HON. S. C. WOOD

W. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.

GEO. TAYLOR, ESQ.

JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.

HENRY W. DARLING, ESQ.

GEO. A. COX, ESQ.

T. S. STAYNER, ESQ.

JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.

Your obedient servants,

HENRY PELLATT,

R. S. CASSELS.

JAS. BROWNE,

} Scrutineers.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held subsequently, Henry W. Darling, Esq., and Wm. Elliot, Esq., were elected President and Vice-President respectively by a unanimous vote.

W. N. ANDERSON,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 13th July, 1886.





# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

---

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED - . . . .	\$6,000,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP - . . . .	\$6,000,000
REST - . . . .	\$500,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

HENRY W. DARLING, Esq.,	PRESIDENT.
GEO. A. COX, Esq.,	VICE-PRESIDENT.
HON. WILLIAM MCMASTER	JAMES CRATHERN, Esq.
GEORGE TAYLOR, Esq.	JOHN I. DAVIDSON, Esq.
HON. S. C. WOOD	WM. GOODERHAM, Esq.
W. B. HAMILTON, Esq.	MATTHEW LEGGAT, Esq.

---

**B. E. WALKER**, General Manager.  
**J. H. PLUMMER**, Assistant General Manager.  
WM. GRAY, Inspector.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

25TH JUNE, 1887.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 2,390,732 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	\$ 2,088,845 77
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date .....	7,896,194 41
Balances due other Banks in Canada.....	208,544 05
Balances due agents in Great Britain.....	270,219 28
Unclaimed dividends .....	2,398 32
Dividend No. 40, payable 2nd July.....	210,000 00
	<hr/> \$13,066,933 83

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$ 6,000,000 00
Rest.....	500,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss account carried forward .....	7,160 81
	<hr/> 6,507,160 81
	<hr/> \$19,574,094 64

# ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 445,306 55
Dominion Notes .....	879,472 75
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks .....	417,411 89
Balances due by other Banks in Canada ....	159,626 11
Balances due by agents of the Bank in the United States .....	823,432 55
British, Canadian and U. S. Government Securities, Municipal and Other Stocks and Bonds .....	866,524 31
Call and Short Loans on Stocks and Bonds ..	591,388 77
	<hr/>
	\$4,183,162 93
Time Loans on Stocks and Bonds .....	525,563 00
Other Current Loans and Discounts .....	14,264,228 47
Bills Discounted Overdue, not specially secured (loss fully provided for) .....	26,781 45
Overdue Debts Secured .....	149,040 94
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises) and Mortgages .....	167,686 46
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	257,631 39
	<hr/>
	\$19,574,094 64

B. E. WALKER, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 25th June, 1887.

## BRANCHES

**QUEBEC—**

MONTREAL.....A. M. CROMBIE.....Manager.  
TARIO.....

ONTARIO—

AYR .....	JOHN WYLLIE .....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	H. H. MORRIS .....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE .....	R. THOMSON .....	"
BERLIN .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
BLENHEIM .....	R. C. MACPHERSON .....	"
BRANTFORD .....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
CHATHAM .....	J. E. THOMAS .....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	E. PANGMAN .....	"
DUNDAS .....	W. SMITH .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	F. C. MINTY .....	"
GALT .....	W. THOMPSON .....	"
GODERICH .....	R. S. WILLIAMS .....	"
GUELPH .....	B. R. MCCONKEY .....	"
HAMILTON .....	WM. ROBERTS .....	"
JARVIS .....	H. J. GRASETT .....	Agent.
LONDON .....	H. A. NICHOLSON .....	Manager.
NORWICH .....	W. A. SAMPSON .....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	B. SHEPHERD .....	"
OTTAWA .....	ROBT. GILL .....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. JENNINGS .....	"
PARKHILL .....	J. M. DUFF .....	"
PETERBORO .....	WM. MANSON .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET .....	"
SEAFORTH .....	A. H. IRELAND .....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	W. MAYNARD, JR. ....	"
STRATHROY .....	L. H. DAMPIER .....	"
THOROLD .....	W. J. ROBERTSON .....	"
TORONTO .....	J. C. KEMP .....	"
" .....	L. BOLSTER .....	Sub Mgr.
WALKERTON .....	J. R. CLARKE .....	Manager.
WINDSOR .....	C. M. STORK .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"

## UNITED STATES

NEW YORK ..... { J. H. GOADBY..... } Agents.  
 { ALEX. LAIRD ..... }

**BANKERS:**

NEW YORK . THE AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK.  
LONDON, ENGLAND THE BANK OF SCOTLAND.



INNISFAIL, ALTA.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
ON TUESDAY, JULY 12TH, 1887.

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of this Bank was held at the Head Office, in Toronto, on Tuesday, July 12th, 1887. Among those present were Messrs. Henry W. Darling, Hon. Wm. McMaster, Senator; Hon. S. C. Wood, Henry Pellatt, John Battle, Thorold; C. S. Gzowski, Frank Mackelcan, Hamilton; George Taylor, Geo. A. Cox, Edward Martin, Hamilton; W. B. Hamilton, John I. Davidson, Dr. Uzziel Ogden, Hugh Moore, Dundas; W. T. Boyd, H. L. Hime, John Wardrop, E. S. Cox, John Y. Reid, Philip Browne, F. J. Stewart, H. S. Northrop, Thomas Long, Collingwood; Walter S. Lee, E. B. Osler, George Roach, Hamilton; John Scott, Matthew Leggat, Hamilton; S. G. Wood, Z. Burnham, Whitby; George Boyd and Captain Andros, St. Catharines.

On motion the President, Mr. Henry W. Darling, took the chair.

The Chairman requested Mr. Plummer, Assistant General Manager, to act as Secretary of the meeting.

Mr. George A. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. John I. Davidson, that Messrs. Philip Browne, Henry Pellatt and H. C. Hammond act as Scrutineers.

The President requested the General Manager, Mr. Walker, to read the Directors' Report and Statement ;

## REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the 20th Annual Report, together with the usual Statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Bank, as on 25th June, 1887 :

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account brought forward from last year is....\$ 21,829 04

The net profits for the year, after deducting charges of management, and providing for losses sustained during the year amount to... 606,714 94

\$ 628,544 98

Out of this have been paid Dividends Nos. 39 and 40 at 7 per cent. per annum..... 420,000 00

Leaving a balance for the year of.....\$ 208,544 98

To this have been added :

Balance transferred from " Reserve for Rebate of Interest on Current Discounts..... 150,000 00

Amount transferred from Rest Account ..... 1,100,000 00

\$1,458,544 98

And the following amounts have been charged thereto :

Appropriation for bad and doubtful debts .....\$930,543 87

Transferred to Contingent Account :

Estimated loss on accounts in liquidation..... 164,990 00

Reserved for doubtful debts still current ..... 290,500 00

Written off Bank Premises Account 21,883 14

Written off Bank Furniture Account 43,467 16

1,451,384 17

Leaving at credit of Profit and Loss Account ..\$ 7,160 81



## THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

Since our last Annual Meeting Mr. W. N. Anderson has resigned his position as General Manager, and Mr. B. E. Walker, late joint agent of the bank in New York, has been appointed in his stead. This change in the general management took place on the 20th of October last.

On the 12th of November following Mr. J. H. Plummer, then Assistant General Manager of the Merchants' Bank of Canada, was appointed Assistant General Manager of this Bank, the duties of that position having previously been performed by the Toronto Manager, Mr. J. C. Kemp, whose entire attention is now required for the important affairs of that Branch.

This change in the Executive necessarily involved a re-valuation of the entire assets of the Bank, the results of which are given in the Report of the General Manager to the Board, a copy of which is appended hereto.

It will be seen from this Report that the General Manager recommends that the sum of \$930,543.87 be written off for debts considered bad, and \$455,490 appropriated as a Contingent Fund against debts considered doubtful, and that for this purpose the sum of \$1,100,000 be taken from the Rest, leaving the balance of that fund at \$500,000. The Directors greatly regret that this result, arrived at after a most rigorous examination of the assets of the Bank, differs from that indicated in their last Annual Report, but after a careful revision of the work of the Executive, they deemed it their duty to give effect to the recommendation of the General Manager.

The profits for the current year, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts appertaining to the year, amount to \$606,715.94, being slightly in excess of 10 per cent. on the capital of the Bank. The earnings over and above the dividend paid amount to \$186,715.94.

The general business of the Bank is increasing in volume, and while there has been a considerable falling off in deposits at interest, the aggregate of those bearing a rate not exceeding

three per cent. has increased. The Bank, seeing as it does, only business of a first-class character, cannot at present find profitable employment for deposits bearing a higher rate of interest than three per cent.

It will be observed that we have transferred the balance at credit of "Reserve for Rebate on Current Discounts," Profit and Loss Account; and also that the "Contingent Account," which now amounts to \$455,490.00, is not shown among liabilities to Shareholders.

As to the first, the Board is of opinion that the Bank's statement will be more clear and concise if fewer accounts are kept for the purpose of showing its surplus earnings. The Contingent Account has been dropped from the Balance Sheet, to remove the idea, present in the minds of some Shareholders, that this account is really part of the Bank's surplus. It must be regarded as a provision for future debts, which in all probability will be required for the purpose.

The sum of \$65,350.30 has been written off the Bank's Premises and Furniture Accounts, as a result of a comprehensive inventory and the various properties now stand upon books at figures below their actual cash value.

The premises at present occupied by the Bank in having long been inadequate to the business need of the Head Office and the Toronto Branch, situated on the corner of King and Jordan streets, has been purchased and it is proposed, with the approval of the Shareholders, to erect a more suitable building thereon. Plans and estimates have been prepared and conditional contracts entered.

Several important changes in the staff, apart from those already referred to, have been made during the year, resulting in increased efficiency in the management of the Bank generally, and the Directors have pleasure in stating that the officers as a whole have discharged their duties satisfactorily.

GEO. J. DARLING,

President.

## REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER.

I beg herewith to submit a statement of the Bank's position as at the 25th June. It will be seen from it that in order to put the assets of the Bank in an absolutely sound condition it is necessary to provide for bad and doubtful debts to the extent of \$1,386,033.87, and that this involves a reduction of the Bank's Rest from its present figure of \$1,600,000 to \$500,000.

In October last on the resignation of Mr. W. N. Anderson, I assumed at your request, the position of General Manager of the Bank. Among the many serious duties which thereby devolved upon me none is more serious than the task of valuing the assets committed to my charge, in order that the Directors may present to the Shareholders a statement of the Bank's affairs, which will be at once a clear and trustworthy showing of the position of their property, and as far as possible a guarantee of its value. I have fortunately been able to divide the labours incident to my position with the General Manager, Mr. Plummer, without whose aid the thorough scrutiny to which the Bank's assets have been submitted could not have been accomplished in so short a time.

In this revaluation of the Bank's assets is involved an examination, with the most rigid regard for the dangers always present in trade, of the thousands of business ventures represented by the loans of the Bank. The examination just concluded has been made with as scrupulous care and in as judicial a frame of mind as possible, and it is scarcely necessary for me to add that in succeeding years our statements will be based upon similar examinations made with similar care and precision.

But the present task has been rendered unusually difficult by the fact that our opinion of the Bank's assets differs very materially from that of my predecessor. Whenever the element of doubt fully enters an asset, the basis for valuing the asset should

which leaves out of sight all sources of recovery which are merely conjectural, and this, I think, applies with the same force to an account which is current and on which interest is collected, as to debts already in default, if the source of recovery of the whole debt cannot be seen. Between such a method of valuing the property of the Bank, and a more hopeful view under which appropriations are not made until losses are positively ascertained, there is, unfortunately, room for very wide difference, especially when the assets under examination, amount to as much as sixteen millions of dollars. The fact that it is found necessary to take from the Rest such a large amount must be a matter of deep regret to all of us, the Executive as well as the Board and the Shareholders, yet nothing but mischief could result from taking too hopeful a view of assets of the description referred to. If we err in judging their value we should be careful that the margin of error in our calculations is on the safe side.

The result of our examination into the affairs of the Bank, apart from the necessary adjustment of these bad and doubtful assets, is much more satisfactory than we had supposed it would be before assuming charge. The loaning business of the Bank is active and healthy; and although we have the largest line of deposits in the Dominion, apart from the Bank of Montreal, and are only seeking business of the very first quality, we have enough to do to take up all the good accounts which are offered. As a natural consequence the earning power of the Bank is quite satisfactory. Doubtless there are some ways in which it may be improved, and certainly we shall do our best looking to that end, but the average earnings of the past have been sufficiently handsome, and, in our opinion, it has not been from any lack of power in that respect that the Bank has failed to build up a substantial surplus.

The business organization of the Bank is excellent. The administration of its routine work is as nearly perfect as may

be. The junior members of the staff, with but few exceptions, have been trained in our own system ; and this is also true of the majority of our senior officers. In the administration of the Bank this is of the very first importance. It is quite natural that in building up a large institution we should have had bitter experiences, but we have now a large body of men who have grown up with the Bank, and to whom these experiences belong almost as much as to the institution itself ; and it is out of this condition of things that we are to look in the future for that strength in the management which comes from a keen appreciation of the sources of profit, combined with a matured experience of the dangers incident to our business.

Feeling as I do regarding the organization and the earning power of the Bank, it is hardly necessary for me to add that I entertain no fears regarding our future. Losses we must have, of course, and nothing but untiring vigilance will keep our losses in satisfactorily small proportion to our profits, but this is in the nature of banking, and I see no reason, looking to our equipment for business and our accumulated experience, why the losses of the past should occur again.

Respectfully submitted,

B. E. WALKER,

General Manager.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Darling then said—The Report has been in your hands for some time, and before formally moving its adoption I have a few remarks to make upon it. The information afforded you in the Report of the Board and of the General Manager in your hands is so full and comprehensive that I do not propose to detain you with any lengthy remarks.

#### CHANGES IN THE STAFF.

The resignation of the late General Manager, Mr. Anderson, soon after the Board honoured me by electing me to the position of President, placed upon them a duty and responsi-

bility exceeding in importance any other, I might truly say every other duty, which they are called upon to perform, namely, the appointment of the chief executive officer of the Bank. Failure here to secure the proper officer could not be remedied by the faultless performance of every other duty assigned to the Board.

The Board was fortunate in finding among the officers of the Bank, in the person of Mr. B. E. Walker, one trained in it, intimate with its history, one who growing up with it had filled with marked ability and success many important positions in it, whose experience answered in every important respect to the requirements of the position, and he was accordingly appointed.

The duties of the Head Office are of such an engrossing, multifarious and exacting character, it was felt that the interests of the Bank required that the General Manager should have the undivided assistance of the most talented available gentleman we could find, so that Mr. Walker should feel free at all times to devote himself to the particular branch work requiring his personal attention for the time being, without any anxiety as to the effect of this upon the ordinary duties of his office. If the Board did not on this occasion give expression to its natural desires by selecting this officer from the existing staff, we at least came very near it, and I have the best reason for saying that the return of Mr. Plummer to the ranks of our officers has not only been a great gain to us, but has also been received with the most cordial approval by the staff generally.

From a personal acquaintance of a somewhat limited and yet very intimate kind, the judgment which I had formed of the capabilities of our new General Manager and Assistant General Manager has been more than confirmed, and I have no hesitation in saying that in them we have men of the highest character and integrity; enthusiastic in the study and performance of their professional duties, thoroughly devoted to this institution and with a diversity of experience which

renders them the complete complement one of the other, from whom the Shareholders may expect services of an eminent kind.

#### THE POSITION OF THE BANK.

The investigation which followed upon these appointments being made, and its results, are very fully referred to in the Report. Much as it has pained us all to find the position of the Bank's affairs as it is now represented to you, it seemed to be a duty of the plainest kind that you should be made fully aware of the result of the searching investigation which has been made by the new executive. It has necessarily been a trying and an exhaustive one, but you may rely, and it is clear the public has relied, implicitly, upon the thoroughness and accuracy of our work, and we have been greatly encouraged by the spontaneous expressions of confidence which have been extended to us by some of the largest and most influential Shareholders of the Bank as to our future work, even if it has had such an unpleasant beginning.

There is much in the statement before you and in the present position of the Bank to gratify the Shareholders, and to stimulate and encourage the Board and the officers of the Bank.

In some very important respects, as the Report states, the affairs of the Bank are in a much better condition than we had expected to find them. The large proportion of our assets, which is in the shape of business of a first-class and remunerative character, is a matter not lightly to be esteemed.

The growth of an institution of this kind with its wide ramifications and extended field of operations is necessarily of a slow nature. That the preliminary dangers and disastrous experiences incident to almost every institution in its early history have now been passed, and that this experience, obtained while the country and its commerce have been passing through alternate periods of expansion and depression, has been distilled and its lessons burned into the minds of the older members of our staff, to serve as capital which money cannot purchase, is also worthy of remembrance.

Peculiarly the creature of confidence, this Bank has won its way to a very high place in the esteem alike of its customers and the public generally, and we rely with every assurance upon meriting an increasing measure of this confidence.

Although the year which has just closed has been an eventful one in the history of the Bank and much has been done towards the end we have in view, there is yet much, we feel, that can be done towards securing greater efficiency in the administration of its affairs, with possibly an increased measure of economy and profit, which we hope to take up during the year upon which we have just entered if it shall please the Shareholders to restore to us the trust which we now again place in their hands.

We have all felt and still feel deeply the responsibilities which have devolved upon us in keeping the large funds at the disposal of the Bank fully, profitably and safely employed.

There is nothing apparent on the face of the commercial barometer to presage disaster or even depression, but we are not unmindful of the fact that it is in just such times that the seeds of future losses are sown, and we feel that our mission is essentially one of untiring vigilance.

#### THE NEW BUILDING.

The paragraph at the close of the Directors' Report is one to which your attention must be especially directed, and will form the subject of a separate resolution later on.

You are probably aware, and indeed you have only to look around you to see, that the premises we occupy as the Head Office and for the business of the Toronto Branch are far from being creditable to us, and in the early part of the year the Directors sought a solution to the difficulty. There were several reasons why this should be done without delay. It was impossible that we should be indifferent to the action of the other banks in erecting and occupying improved edifices of modern construction and in keeping with the progress of the city generally. The rapid advance in the value of real estate all over the city, and especially in the business part of



it, warned us that every year's delay and probably every week's delay would very largely enhance the value of a new site. After careful consultation with the managers it was demonstrated to be quite impossible that we could occupy any temporary premises, which would expose our treasury. It was necessary that we should be within a radius of a few hundred yards of our present site in the centre of the business part of the city, the available sites near which must necessarily become scarcer and more expensive. The Hay property having come upon the market opportunely, the Board unanimously resolved to acquire it, and in the exercise of the discretion vested in them took the necessary steps for the erection of a new building which would at once afford ample facilities for the present and growing business of the Bank, be of the most modern construction, creditable to the Bank, and which would at the same time afford a considerable revenue from the portion not required immediately for the use of the Bank.

It was at this stage that the possibility of a large reduction of the Rest loomed up, and the Directors deemed it advisable to take the Shareholders into their full confidence and ask their approval of this important step. The circumstances are not altered in any way since the first step was taken; the necessity is still as great, and the erection of a new building can only be delayed at the most a very short time. The money that has been spent for years in repairs upon our present building, or which may be spent upon it, is practically thrown away. The value of real estate is advancing; suitable sites are becoming even scarcer and more difficult to secure, and while we would have gladly seen larger surplus resources with which to engage in an enterprise of this kind, the Board considers the best interests of the Bank and its creditable appearance in the eyes of the public are deeply involved in the question of a new building.

I trust the meeting will concur in the views which I have thus briefly laid before you and embody them in a formal resolution to that effect.

I have now to move, seconded by Mr. Cox, the Vice-President not being here, that the Report of the Directors now read be adopted and printed for the information of the Shareholders. The General Manager will have a few remarks to make, and will then, I am sure, be very happy to answer any questions which may be put to him. I beg to move the adoption of the Report.

Mr. George A. Cox briefly seconded the motion.

#### THE GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Walker, General Manager, said—I have nothing in the nature of a speech to make but I merely wish to add a few words, by way of information, to the Report of the Directors which has just been presented. Since the annual statement of the Bank has been made public there have been many comments made in the press, which may be supposed more or less to reflect the opinions of the Shareholders. As a whole these comments seem to show that the action of the new Executive is approved. But these expressions of approval are made from various points of view, and many of them seem to have been written under the impression that there was more than one course of action open to us—a comment frequently made being that while it was wise to do so, we have doubtless put the knife into the Bank's assets deeper than there was any real necessity to do. Now, we are quite satisfied that we have put the knife in deep enough, but we wish to remove the idea that we have as a matter of deliberate policy, undervalued the Shareholders' property. The object of the new Executive in the matter was a very simple one, viz., to arrive at as precise a statement of the Bank's position as possible. We were, of course, very conscious, that we would be judged in the future by the progress made from the date of the present statement: but, while jealously guarding our own interests, we have not been disloyal to the interests of the Shareholders. Every account in the Bank has been submitted to the closest scrutiny, not once but several times during the seven or eight months at our disposal.

In examining the Bank's risks we have required from all borrowers of any moment precise statements of their affairs, and these statements have been subjected to a severe analysis made by a careful re-statement of what the customer's position would be if forced to liquidate. In this manner all the business of the Bank has undergone examination, the executive classing as satisfactory only business of a high order. The amount of assets admitted to this class, but which may be said to be locked up for terms longer than the ordinary currency of banking transactions, is very small, and in every case the security is ample and the loan is earning interest. In a few cases, where assets are locked up in the manner referred to and the security is ample but the interest has, by arrangement, been waived, or cannot be collected, we have reduced the asset to its present cash value. For a score or so of accounts, in which no one could venture to assert that loss will occur, but which are sufficiently unsatisfactory to warrant their being classed as accounts which we would refuse if now offered to the Bank, we have set aside a sufficient general contingent fund. Regarding assets which do not come up to the standard already indicated, and in which the doubtful element is quite evident, we have made provision on clearly defined principles, writing off or making contingent appropriations against each particular asset or account. Where the Bank has claims, the obligants on which are not discharged, but are, at the moment, in such a shape financially that the claims cannot be made, we have written the debts down to a mere nominal figure, leaving a small balance, in order to keep them under such periodical review as will prevent opportunities of recovery being overlooked, should obligants again become in a position to pay.

Where our source of recovery depends on the disposal of property we had, of course, the greatest difficulty. Immediately after taking charge valuations of such properties were obtained from the various managers. These properties then became the subject of the most exhaustive correspondence, independent valuations being obtained wherever possible.

After a period of several months, during which a great mass of information had been brought together, the managers were required to prepare new statements, great stress being laid upon the necessity of placing the lowest warrantable values on all such assets in order to avoid the possibility of any further appropriations being required. This resulted in many cases in a most marked shrinkage from previous estimates, and, of course the final values set by us were in no case higher, and in most cases very considerably lower, than the lowest estimate made by the managers. Nothing was more persistently present in our minds than the determination not to attempt to conjecture regarding the surplus that would be left. The Executive simply concluded its labours by adding up the results and presenting them to the Board, and it should not be necessary to say that our course would have been the same if the result had shown that the Rest fund was entirely absorbed on the one hand, or was left at a much higher figure than half a million of dollars on the other.

Mr. Wardrop—I would like to ask if there will be any difficulty in keeping up the 7 per cent. dividends. The reason I ask that question is that there will be a great deal of speculation on the subject, and I know it has been the outside talk that it would likely be put down to 6 per cent. Now, it would be as well for us to know if the 7 per cent. dividend, with which we have commenced, is likely to be maintained, as that knowledge would save a good deal of speculation.

Mr. Walker—I may say that in declaring a 7 per cent. dividend for the first half of the year we simply followed the course of our predecessors, but before declaring a dividend for the second half of the year we were quite sufficiently—I may say almost fully—aware of the exact position of the bank; and, as I have stated in my report, the earnings for the current year, after providing for the losses of the current year, were in excess of 10 per cent. Now, I do not know that I could say anything more to show that if such a state of things continues we will be able to pay 7 per cent.

Mr. Wardrop—I may say that my reason for asking the question is to save speculation on the subject, as it has been going abroad that the dividends would be cut down to six per cent., and the influence of this would be to depreciate the stock.

Mr. Walker—We presumed that our declaration of the last dividend of seven per cent. was the most emphatic way in which we could stop talk of that kind, and we feel sure that in Montreal and elsewhere it has had that effect.

The resolution to adopt the Report was then put and carried.

#### THE NEW BUILDING.

Mr. Edward Martin moved :

That having regard to the requirements of the Bank's business in Toronto, and the inadequate accommodation afforded by the present premises, the Shareholders approve of the action of Directors in acquiring a site on the corner of King and Jordan streets, and in arranging for the erection thereon of suitable premises for the use of the Head Office and the Toronto Branch. He said—I think the premises in which we are holding this meeting speak very eloquently as to the necessity of adopting this resolution ; and I am glad that the gentlemen who have been connected with the Bank for twenty years have made up their minds to conduct the business of the Bank of Commerce in a building constructed for that purpose.

Mr. J. Y. Reid seconded the motion.

Some questions having been raised as to the advisability of expending money on a new building at present,

The Chairman—The question is whether we should acquire a new property at all or not ; if we should, there is no doubt that if we delay for a few years property may enormously increase in value, and possibly we may not be able to get the site we want. I think it is perfectly clear, if you admit the necessity, that the time is opportune.

After some further discussion the motion was carried.

## A CHANGE IN THE BY-LAWS.

The chairman announced that it had been found desirable to make new by-laws for the Bank, under the powers conferred by the Banking Act, to take the place of the existing by-laws. The most important change proposed is that the annual meeting be held on the third Tuesday in June in each year, instead of the second Tuesday in July, the earlier date being more convenient. This would necessitate the payment of dividends on the 1st December and 1st June in each year, and the dividend to be declared on 1st December next must be made to cover a broken period of five months.

The proposed by-laws having been read, it was moved by Hon. S. C. Wood, seconded by Mr. W. B. Hamilton, and carried :

That By-Laws Numbers 1 to 9, as read, be and are hereby adopted as the By-Laws of The Canadian Bank of Commerce.

## THANKS TO THE BOARD.

Mr. F. Mackelcan moved—That the thanks of the meeting are due, and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year. In moving the resolution he said—I think I can confidently speak for the Shareholders of the Bank when I say they are under deep obligations to the President and Directors for the bold and straightforward policy they have adopted in dealing with the affairs of the Bank. They have made a most incisive and careful examination into the assets of the Bank, and they now present to us a fearless, full and true explanation of its actual position. The Shareholders feel confident that they now know the whole truth with regard to the position of the Bank, and the confidence which is thus inspired in the minds of the Shareholders will extend from them to the public. Believing as I do, and as I think the Shareholders generally do, that the Bank has now entered upon an era of prosperity, and that



KAMLOOPS, B. C.





it will soon regain the ground it has lost, I have great pleasure in submitting this resolution to the Shareholders here present.

Mr. H. S. Northrop—I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Hon. Wm. McMaster—Before this motion is put I would like to say a few words. I do not wonder that the large amount written off the Rest is disappointing to the Shareholders. But it should be remembered that moneyed institutions, when aiming to build up a large business are, in their early days, exposed to losses, even under the most favourable circumstances. This has been peculiarly the case during seasons of great depression such as have been frequently experienced since the Bank of Commerce was established. It should also be borne in mind that the Bank has paid an average dividend of 8 per cent. since the day it opened. In view of these facts, together with its present position and future prospects, I venture to hope that on reflection the Shareholders will see that they have no great reason to complain. After the most rigid investigation, and after the application of the knife with no sparing hand, it is found that the capital is unimpaired and its Rest not by any means exhausted. It would have been most unwise in the Directors to interfere with Mr. Walker in the exercise of his judgment in dealing with the assets. His report on the condition of the Bank, made not hastily, but after months of patient investigation, cannot be otherwise than satisfactory to the Shareholders. So much for the past. As to the future, whether I look to the capital of the Bank, which is sound beyond all question, or to its extensive and valuable connection and known earning power, I confidently anticipate that its future, under the present management will be all that the Shareholders could desire. I have been for years a pretty large Shareholder, and have not parted with a dollar of my stock, which, allow me to say, I regard as being amongst my safest and best investments.

The resolution was thereupon carried.

## THANKS TO THE OFFICERS.

Mr. Walter S. Lee—The resolution which I beg to propose is one thanking the executive officers—the General Manager, the Assistant General Manager and the other officers—for their services in connection with the management of the Bank's affairs. We have had very important meetings in this room in the past, but I think none have been more important than the one which has been held here to-day, at which the General Manager has given a very explicit statement of the state of our finances. We are told by that officer that he has very carefully gone over our assets and has applied the pruning knife to every one of them so as to bring them to an interest-bearing basis. I have no hesitation as a financier in saying that any person holding stock resting on those assets is in a far better position than a person taking stocks in all sorts of assets which have not been so tested. The General Manager, who has had nothing to do with making the investments, has come here to-day and he has done exactly what we wished him to do—he has told us frankly what the state of the Bank is. Knowing that this is the case, I think it is the duty of the Shareholders to give the manager and his assistant and the staff generally their confidence; I therefore move that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager and other officers of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Mr. E. B. Osler—In seconding the resolution which has been moved, I can only say that after listening to the statement which has been made here to-day, I believe these officers deserve the thanks of the Shareholders.

Mr. Roach, Hamilton, expressed the hope that the Board would act liberally with the staff, with regard to the remuneration for their services during the current year.

The motion was carried.

Mr. Thomas Long, Collingwood, moved, seconded by Dr. Ogden, that the ballot box be now opened, and remain

open until three o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballots for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered.

The meeting then adjourned.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected as Directors for the ensuing year: Henry W. Darling, Hon. Wm. McMaster, George Taylor, Hon. S. C. Wood, W. B. Hamilton, Jas. Crathern, Geo. A. Cox, John I. Davidson, Wm. Gooderham, Matthew Leggat.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors, held subsequently, Henry W. Darling, Esq., was re-elected President, and Geo. A. Cox, Esq., elected Vice-President.

B. E. WALKER,  
General Manager.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL PAID-UP	\$8,000,000
REST	\$ 600,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

HENRY W. DARLING, ESQ.,	PRESIDENT.
GEO. A. COX, ESQ.,	VICE-PRESIDENT.
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.	WM. GOODERHAM, ESQ.
JAS. CRATHERN, ESQ.	JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.
W. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.	MATTHEW LEGGAT, ESQ.

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B. E. WALKER, General Manager.  
J. H. PLUMMER, Asst. General Manager.  
A. H. IRELAND, Inspector.

## BRANCHES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL.....A. M. CROMBIE.....Manager.

### ONTARIO—

AYR.....	JOHN WYLLIE.....	Agent.
BARRIE.....	H. H. MORRIS.....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE.....	R. THOMSON.....	"
BERLIN.....	D. B. DEWAR.....	"
BLENHEIM.....	R. C. MACPHERSON.....	Agent.
BRANTFORD.....	JEFFERY HALE.....	Manager.
CHATHAM.....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
COLLINGWOOD.....	JAS. BRYDON.....	"
DUNDAS.....	C. E. PANGMAN.....	"
DUNNVILLE.....	F. C. MINTY.....	"
GALT.....	W. THOMPSON.....	"
GODERICH.....	R. S. WILLIAMS.....	"
GUELPH.....	B. R. MCCONKEY.....	"
HAMILTON.....	WM. ROBERTS.....	"
JARVIS.....	H. J. GRASETT.....	Agent.
LONDON.....	H. A. NICHOLSON.....	Manager.
ORANGEVILLE.....	B. SHEPHERD.....	"
OTTAWA.....	ROBT. GILL.....	"
PARIS.....	R. C. JENNINGS.....	"
PARKHILL.....	J. M. DUFF.....	"
PETERBORO.....	WM. MANSON.....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	F. O. CROSS.....	"
SARNIA.....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SEAFORTH.....	JOHN AIKD.....	"
SIMCOE.....	E. COWDRY.....	"
STRATFORD.....	W. MAYNARD, JR.....	"
STRATHROY.....	L. H. DAMPIER.....	"
THOROLD.....	W. J. ROBERTSON.....	"
TORONTO.....	J. C. KEMP.....	"
".....	L. BOLSTER.....	Sub Mgr
EAST TORONTO.....	A. BRADLEY.....	Manager.
NORTH TORONTO.....	R. J. MONTGOMERY.....	"
N. W. TORONTO.....	R. C. MCHARRIE.....	"

**BRANCHES—Continued.**

WALKERTON ..... G. W. MCKEE.....Act. Mgr.  
WINDSOR.....C. M. STORK.....Manager.  
WOODSTOCK ..... D. H. CHARLES.....

**UNITED STATES—**

NEW YORK..... { ALEX. LAIRD ..... } Agents.  
 { WM. GRAY ..... }

## BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

GREAT BRITAIN—

**The Bank of Scotland (Incorporated 1695).**

## NEW YORK—

The American Exchange National Bank of New York.

SAN FRANCISCO—

**The Bank of British Columbia.**

CHICAGO—

The American Exchange National Bank of Chicago.

VICTORIA, B.C.—

**The Bank of British Columbia.**

# GENERAL STATEMENT

31ST MAY, 1888.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public*

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$ 2,117,681 00
Deposits not bearing interest .....	2,239,960 71
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date .....	8,769,595 83
Balances due other Banks in Canada .....	11,625 71
Balances due Agents in Great Britain .....	731,957 64
Unclaimed Dividends .....	2,403 48
Dividend No. 42, payable 1st June .....	210,000 00

\$14,083,224 37

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest .....	600,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward .....	15,799 11

6,615,799 11

\$20,699,023 48

## ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 495,934 37
Dominion Notes .....	682,538 00
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks ..	585,224 49
Balances due by other Banks in Canada ..	102,630 29
Balances due by Agents of the Bank in the United States, British, Canadian, and U. S. Government Securities, Municipal and other Stocks and Bonds .....	1,213,861 54
Call and Short Loans on Stocks and Bonds .....	1,085,199 31
Time Loans on Stocks and Bonds .....	568,463 45
Other Current Loans and Discounts .....	\$ 4,733,851 45
Bills Discounted Overdue, not specially Secured (loss fully provided for) .....	460,862 90
Overdue Debts, secured .....	14,789,426 01
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises), and Mortgages ..	45,653 42
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	153,984 96
	161,326 75
	344,917 99

\$20,699,023 48

B. E. WALKER, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE  
Toronto, 31st May, 1888



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD TUESDAY, 19TH JUNE, 1888.

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The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was held in Toronto on Tuesday, 19th June, 1888. Among those present were : Messrs. Henry W. Darling, George A. Cox, John I. Davidson, Matthew Leggat, Hamilton ; W. Gooderham, W. B. Hamilton, Geo. Taylor, Hugh Ryan, John Scott, A. V. Delaporte, D. E. Thomson, Henry Cawthra, John Y. Reid, John Stark, R. S. Cassels, John Wardrop, Robert Beaty, Hon. Senator Gowan, Sheriff McConkey, Barrie ; Messrs. Edward Martin, Q.C., Edward Mitchell and George Roach, Hamilton ; John Battle, Thorold ; and John Nicol, Ashburn.

On motion the President, Mr. Henry W. Darling, took the chair.

The Chairman requested Mr. Plummer, Assistant General Manager, to act as Secretary of the meeting.

It was moved by Mr. William Gooderham, seconded by Mr. John I. Davidson, that Messrs. Philip Browne, R. H. Temple, and F. J. Stewart act as scrutineers.

The President read the Annual Report of the Directors as follows :

## REPORT

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the twenty-first Annual Report, covering the eleven months ending 31st May, 1888, together with the usual Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Bank.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account brought forward from last year is .....	\$ 7,160 81
The net profits for the 11 months ending 31st May, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amount to .....	507,512 69
	<u>\$514,673 50</u>

Which has been appropriated as follows :

Dividends Nos. 41 and 42 (eleven months) at 7 per cent. per annum.....	\$385,000 00
Quebec Provincial tax and costs .....	13,874 39
Transferred to Rest Account.....	100,000 00
Balance carried forward.....	15,799 11
	<u>\$514,673 50</u>

The Directors record with the deepest regret the death during the past year of the Hon. Wm. McMaster, the founder of this Bank. As its President for nearly twenty years, he gave to the affairs of the institution the most assiduous care and attention. In July, 1886, finding that his health was failing, he retired from the position of President, but he continued up to the day of his death to give his co-Directors and the Executive of the Bank the benefit of his ripe judgment and varied experience.

By this occurrence, and the retirement of the Hon S. C. Wood from the Board, two vacancies in the directorate were created. The exceptional circumstances under which, in 1886, the number of the Directors was increased from eight to ten no longer existing, the Board deemed it advisable to refrain from filling these vacancies, and an amendment of By-law No. 1, reducing the number of Directors from ten to eight, as formerly, will be submitted for action by the Shareholders.

Regarding the earnings of the Bank, it will be observed we have to deal with a period of *eleven months* instead of a full year. This broken period was caused by the change made at the last meeting of the Shareholders in the date of the annual meeting.

Out of the net earnings of the eleven months, amounting to \$507,512.69, the customary dividends at the rate of seven per cent. per annum have been paid, and the sum of \$100,000 transferred to Rest Account.

The conditions incident to banking during the past year have been, as the Shareholders know, anything but favourable. Our steady aim has been to minimize risks in every direction rather than to seek large profits, and to satisfy ourselves as to the safe values of our assets before making an addition to the Rest. The most ample provision has been made in Contingent Account for every debt, current or in default, in which there appears to be any doubtful element. The branches of the Bank, including the Toronto office, have all been inspected during the year.

With a view to the protection of the Bank's large business in Toronto three city branches have been opened during the year, namely, in North Toronto at 763 Yonge street, in North-west Toronto, at 111 College street, and in East Toronto at 798 Queen street. The business of the Bank at Norwich having been found unprofitable, the branch at that place has been closed.

More suitable premises for the Bank's business have been secured in London, Ont., by the purchase of the building erected some years ago by the Federal Bank. A sale of our own building there at a fair price was effected at the same time. The small additional outlay made places us in possession of excellent premises, and the revenue derived from the portion unoccupied by the Bank will enable us to reduce the cost of maintaining our establishment at that point.

It gives the Directors pleasure to bear testimony to the efficiency and fidelity with which the officers of the Bank have

performed their respective duties. The Directors, however, regret to have to announce a very great loss to the staff in the death of Mr. James H. Goadby, who for sixteen years filled the responsible position of one of the Bank's agents in New York. His long experience and rare judgment contributed materially to the marked success which has attended the business of the Bank in New York for many years past.

The erection of the new building for the Head Office in this city is progressing satisfactorily; it gives promise of being a creditable structure and a prudent investment.

HENRY W. DARLING,

President.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Darling then said:—In moving the adoption of the Report I have a few words to say to the Shareholders.

It was meet that the formal Report of the Board this year should have reference at the outset to the loss we have sustained in the death of my esteemed predecessor.

Stern of feature, of gigantic frame, iron will, and unbending integrity, he laboured during a long life with tireless energy, achieving a measure of success in all his undertakings to which few attain.

In his day he played many parts and played them well, and in none of the numerous positions of responsibility and trust which he filled, was there more earnest thought and anxious devotion displayed than in connection with this institution, with the early history of which his name must ever be inseparably woven.

The year just closed has been one rather of troublous activity than a quiet time of progressive prosperity, a season compelling contraction and repression, rather than one marking the inauguration of new enterprises and the extension of existing ones. But we have been able during the year to dispose of so many of the various assets which came into our possession through the failure of our debtors, in past years,

is a matter of sincere congratulation, and we are happy to assure the Shareholders that a decided improvement has taken place in the condition and character of our assets generally, as the result of a vigilant scrutiny and watchful criticism, as well at the inception as during the currency of all the loans of the Bank.

A disturbance in financial circles, which moved some communities to their depth, and caused a feeling of uneasiness and insecurity generally, together with depression in the mercantile realm consequent upon the deficient harvest in Ontario, exposed, if they did not actually create, a few weak elements in the trade of the country. Steps more or less effectual have no doubt been taken to remove these; and a persistence in precautionary measures, until the result of the coming harvest is assured, is certainly the animating disposition at the moment among business people generally.

#### THE DUTIES OF DIRECTORS.

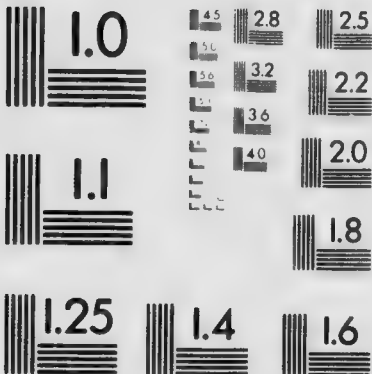
The occurrences of the year, however, are fraught with valuable lessons by which we ought to profit; one or two of which we may well record for future use. Chief among these is the prominence which has been given to the dangers, the duties, and the responsibilities of bank Directors.

I speak for my colleagues as well as for myself, when I say we have realized very fully the supreme importance of having the active management of your affairs in the hands of men of proved ability and integrity. Any shortcoming in this respect would not, and could not, be compensated for by any service which as Directors they might render. With all respect to the critics who have assigned to them very different functions, it seems to me to be the practical duty of their office, to place at the disposal of the managers such special knowledge of the various pursuits in which they are severally engaged, such experience, influence, judgment and advice as the Directors possess, so that with clear and intelligent apprehension of the condition and current of the various



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mercantile and industrial enterprises of the country, the managers shall be able accurately to apply their professional skill to the safe and profitable investment of the funds at their disposal.

It affords me a great deal of pleasure to bear willing testimony to the due fulfilment of all these duties upon the part of my brother Directors during the past year; and I may further add that I think they have been extremely fortunate and successful in the performance of what I have indicated as their most important duty.

If, as the outcome of all this, we have not been able to make such a brilliant addition to our Rest Account, as you might have wished, we have at least taken a vigorous stride in that direction. Evidence has not been wanting that a policy of prudent progression has been pursued which will bear more abundant fruit in due time.

#### THE OBLIGATIONS OF SHAREHOLDERS.

I may be pardoned if I add that while much has been said and written lately as to the duties, the shortcomings and delinquencies of bank Directors, some of which was quite proper, but a great deal unreasonable and undeserved, very little, if anything, has been said as to the duties of Shareholders, and yet it seems to me that a most important lesson has been evolved from the occurrences of the past year, to which it may be useful to call attention.

The venture in which a bank is engaged is a joint stock one, in which all the Shareholders are co-partners. The character, standing and capacity of those who are to control or who do control the destiny of the enterprise are not difficult to ascertain; and it is assumed that a reasonable amount of diligence has been exercised by the intending investor upon these points before he joins the co-partnership. On the strength of their association the Government has granted them, by charter, valuable privileges; and the public entrusts them, for a consideration, with the use of their savings, by a



prudent exercise and employment of which their capital may be made productive, while ministering at the same time to the commercial requirements of the country.

Now what shall be said of the loyalty and good faith of the co-partner in this concern, a *bona fide* investor, who on the strength of some unfavourable and very likely unfounded rumour, or at the first approach of seeming disturbance, hastens to withdraw his capital, even at a sacrifice, and thus in the most public way gives notice to the depositors and creditors, without whose implicit confidence all hope of profit and success must vanish, that their funds are in danger?

How has he fulfilled his duty (implied only though it may be) to his co-partners, to the Directors and managers, who have assumed at his instance the responsible duties of their offices, and who have an undoubted claim upon his loyalty?

These are questions that might very properly have been put by the Directors of the Federal Bank last autumn, and which some timid Shareholders might have found it difficult satisfactorily to answer.

As long as the law permits, and most unfortunately permits, the sale of bank stocks which the reported vendor is not in actual possession of, or permits the purchase of them for future delivery, gambling in them will not cease.

But it is hoped the time is not far distant when bank Shareholders will, in the public interest, agitate for the prohibition of this form of gambling, not indulged in, so far as bank stocks are concerned, in any other country but Canada, and meantime, I trust it may not be without some effect that a plea is made to bank Shareholders to be loyal to one another and to those they choose from time to time to administer their affairs.

Looking carefully over the list of our own Shareholders as of the 1st of June, which has just been printed, it may be a matter of interest for you to know that, during the year, not a few of the leading capitalists throughout the Dominion

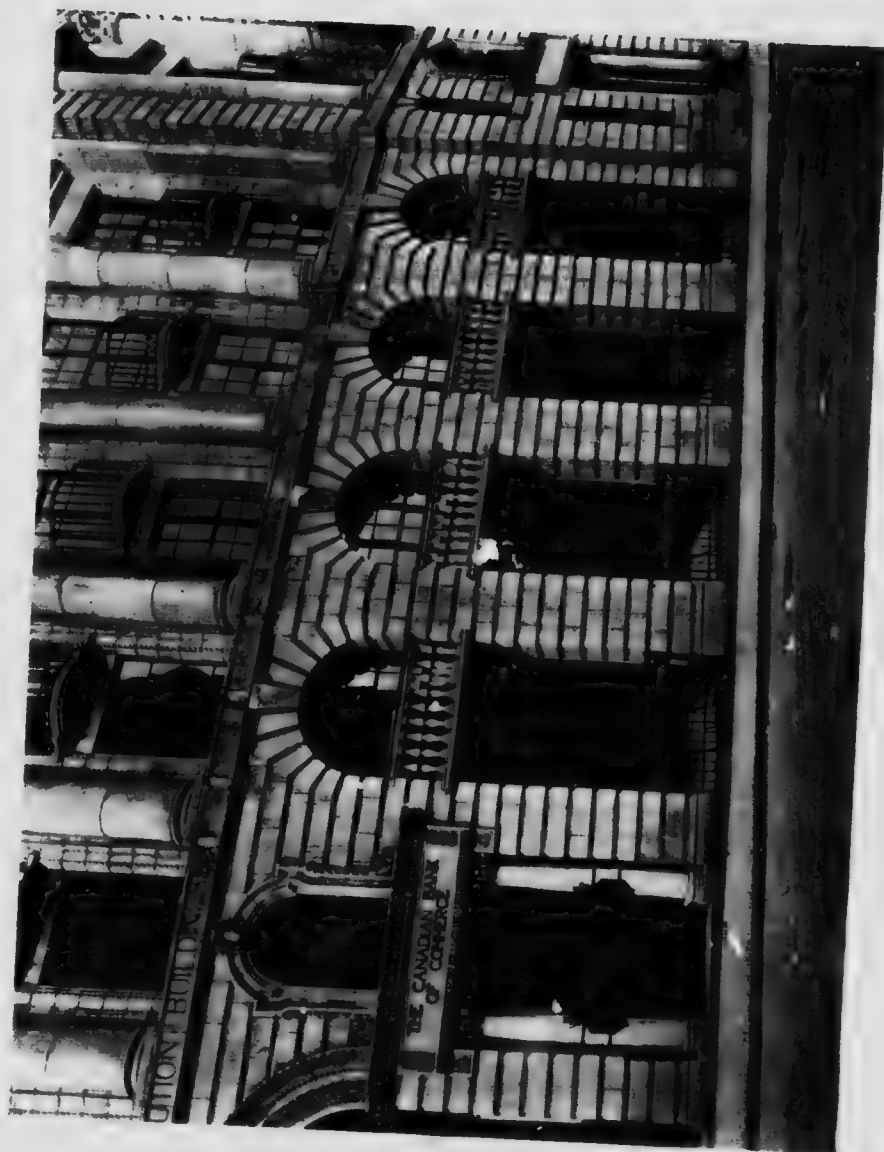
have acquired our stock for investment, and that the number of shares apparently held for speculative purposes is smaller now than it has been for many years past.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S REMARKS.

Mr. Geo. A. Cox, in seconding the motion spoke as follows:—

It is my agreeable duty to second the motion for the adoption of the Report. Reference has been made, both in the Directors' Report and in the President's address, to our late honoured and lamented President, who devoted so much of his time and energy to the interests of the Bank, and who, for so many years, deservedly enjoyed the highest respect and most implicit confidence of the Shareholders. This is the twenty-first Annual Meeting of the Bank, and it is, I believe, the first from which he has been absent; his absence, I am sure, is regretted by one and all. It is, however, very satisfactory to the Shareholders to know that before retiring from active service he nominated (with his characteristic foresight) as his successor in office a gentleman in every particular qualified to discharge the important duties of the office, alike with credit to himself and with advantage to the institution, over which he presides with so much courtesy and ability, with so much zeal and attention, as to command the most cordial approval and respect of every member of the Board and every officer of the Bank. I take this opportunity of saying that personally I esteem it a real pleasure to take part in the deliberations of the Board over which he presides, and where such agreeable unanimity prevails. My ambition has been and now is to afford my friend, the President, the most generous encouragement and support in my power, and to this he has claims of the strongest kind, in view of what he has accomplished since he was elected your President.

One of the first duties devolving upon the new President and his colleagues, prior to the last Annual Meeting, was to place the executive management in the hands of gentlemen who, from long and varied experience in nearly every depart-



LONDON, ENGLAND  
No. 2 Lombard Street



ment of the Bank, had fully demonstrated their ability to assume the important and responsible duties of that position. With these new officers the Bank entered almost immediately upon what has been, perhaps, the most trying period in financial circles that Canada has experienced for many years. To have passed through such a year with the result shown by the Report now submitted is to my mind, and I apprehend it will be to the Shareholders at large, highly satisfactory. A less conservative Board, or a less cautious Executive, could, from the figures before them, have adduced arguments in favour of transferring a larger sum to the Rest. I am glad that no such action was taken. The prime question was not, how much can we transfer to the Rest, but, how much have we a reasonable certainty of being able to retain there? (Hear, hear.) That, I think, you will all agree was the most important consideration.

The agricultural, mercantile, and manufacturing interests of the country, all demand cheaper money to enable them successfully to pursue their respective callings. The eagerness with which our three per cent. Government securities are taken up, the ease with which our loan companies are able to place their four per cent. debentures, the freedom with which some of our own corporations are loaning at five per cent., are indications that this demand for cheaper money has to be met; and Shareholders of banks and other monetary institutions, knowing this, will be less anxious for large returns and look more to sound investments. To those who take that view, and I trust they are many, the Report submitted to-day will, I am sure, be entirely satisfactory.

The President having called on the General Manager to address the meeting,

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS

Mr. Walker spoke as follows:

The addition we have made to our Rest fund is not as large as we hope it may be in future years, but it has been made under difficulties not usually present in our business,

and we feel that it should be satisfactory to the Shareholders. The profits for the eleven months amount to  $9\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. per annum on the Bank's capital, and this is a sufficiently large return to justify the statement that, in spite of the financial squall through which the province has passed, we have had a successful year. The point, however, which I desire to press upon the attention of the Shareholders is that the assets of the Bank have been again subject to a severe analysis—quite as severe as that of a year ago—and the addition to the Rest has only been made after a safe, even liberal provision has been set aside for every doubtful asset on the Bank's books. During the year a very large proportion of the properties which had fallen into the Bank's hands in connection with debts in default, has been disposed of, and the Bank's books are now as nearly clear of such items as we can expect them to be.

You have been treated during the past seven or eight months to such a variety of opinion from the press and its correspondents, regarding the Banking Act, the business of banking, and the condition of trade generally, that I fear you will not have patience enough to listen to a few words more. The close of the fiscal year of a bank is to some Shareholders a mere point of time, the importance of which is measured by the dividend and the condition of the Rest Account. But to the banker, and I am sure to many Shareholders as well, it is a moment for reflection as to the conditions under which the dividend has been earned, and as to the future as far as it may be foreshadowed.

#### A GLANCE AT THE PAST YEAR.

A year ago business was in a condition not far from normal. It is true that several small clouds on the horizon threatened us; the leading banks found money tightening in the early summer; importations were too large, and credit easy enough to make cautious people wonder how soon trouble would result; yet, with a great crop in the North-West and a

good one in Ontario all might turn out well. But our hope of a good harvest in Ontario was ill-founded. The severe drought in the latter half of the summer turned the promise of abundance into one of the poorest crops the province has had for many years. Naturally the banks began to look to their reserves, which were far too low. A little management, however, brought them into fair condition, and if solvent traders were inconvenienced during a few months to a greater extent than was to be expected in view of the failure of the crop, I think such inconvenience is mainly attributable to the competition for deposits during recent years by the Government Savings Banks at a higher rate than that paid by the banks, the effect of which I shall refer to later on.

It would have been strange if the solvent farmers, manufacturers, merchants and bankers of Ontario could not have withstood the loss of one crop, and the contraction in the volume of operations and test of their paying powers which followed. There was in fact at no time any sufficient reason for the loss of confidence which took possession of a portion of the press and the people during the winter. This lack of faith was mainly due to the inability of the general public to discriminate in extending its confidence. To many people a bank is a bank and that is all. They forget that a bank may be equipped by Government with a charter, and have all the proper appurtenances about it, and yet in reality be only masquerading as a bank. This is equally true of mercantile firms, and it is not more true in Canada than elsewhere in the world. Wherever credit is extended there will be failure and fraud, and neither banks nor merchants are entitled to credit until they have secured it by evidence of capacity and rectitude of purpose in conducting their affairs. But unless the condition of trade is actually unfriendly there are always afloat business ventures, some legitimate but ill-starred, others illegitimate, positively dishonest in fact, yet all depending on favourable winds and unable to weather any storm.

## BANK FAILURES.

In August the Bank of London failed, in November the Central Bank, and in January the Federal Bank went into voluntary liquidation. The first was a small bank, almost local to London, and its failure appears to have been due to an unfortunate intimacy with another joint stock company. The creditors were paid almost at once, and it is hardly open for any one to blame the conditions of trade, or our banking system, for what is a common experience in all countries where charters are given to banks which have but small paid-up capital. If Shareholders do not meet with the success they hoped for, and wind up before the general public is put to loss or inconvenience, it is only the Shareholders who have ground for complaint.

The suspension of the Central Bank was a very different matter. Like the Bank of London it was a new venture, and it should have had credit corresponding to its recent beginning and its small capital. But it had acquired a credit with the general public quite out of proportion to what it deserved, even if it had been an honest enterprise. We understand that its stock was placed in several towns and cities, under a promise that if a certain amount was taken a branch would be opened at each of these points. Will any banking act protect Shareholders from the results of such folly as this. Its deposits were gathered by offering one and often two per cent. more for money than other banks were paying. Does the depositor who swallows such a bait deserve much pity? I believe I am only repeating the advice of one of the ablest bankers in Canada when I say that no man should be so ignorant as not to know that his money is not safe in the custody of a bank which persistently overbids its fellows in the same place in the rate of interest allowed on deposits. Doubtless such an exhibition of incompetence and dishonesty is calculated to disturb confidence, but it is absurd to conclude, as some people do, that there must be something wrong in the system of banking under which such a thing is possible.



If the facts in connection with such a failure show that in some points of detail our Banking Act may be improved, so as to lessen the probability of such a thing recurring, bankers will be more anxious than any other members of the community to see such changes made. But the failure of the Central Bank no more proves that our Banking Act is faulty, than the more disgraceful failure of the Fidelity National Bank of Cincinnati proves that the National Banking Act of the United States is defective, or the recent revelations in connection with the Cardiff Savings Bank throw general discredit on the soundness of British financial systems. People must discriminate in extending credit, and they cannot be saved from the necessity of doing so by Act of Parliament. However, despite the disgusting circumstances attending the failure of the Central Bank the circulation was redeemed at once and the depositors will, we are told, receive from 70 to 80c. in the dollar.

The wide distrust caused by the failure of this bank and of several importing houses, increased by the severe stringency in money, created a heavy drain on the deposits of the Federal Bank, and after a gallant struggle for some months the Directors decided upon liquidation. I think no one will charge the recent administration with the downfall of the Bank. Doubtless nothing but the remembrance of the Bank's troubles some years ago would have caused this sudden loss of confidence.

#### LIQUIDATION OF THE FEDERAL BANK.

The liquidation, with open doors and without suspension, of a large bank can rarely be accomplished without the co-operation of other banks, and I believe it has never been carried out in Canada before, certainly not in recent years. But in the United States out of the 3,805 banks organized under the National Banking Act since 1863 as many as 744 have gone out of business through various kinds of failure to succeed, and out of these, 470 have gone into voluntary

liquidation. It requires sounder judgment and greater courage to decide on liquidation than to drift on until the empty cash box makes failure and disgrace inevitable; and the co-operation of other banks in aiding the voluntary liquidation of a bank which has been honestly managed, but has been unfortunate, is a benefit to the community as a whole, and particularly so to the Shareholders of the retiring bank.

The decision of the Directors of the Federal Bank to liquidate, the careful examination of the bank's assets in order to demonstrate that it was proper to render aid, and the conclusion to grant it, were all accomplished in two or three days, and the bank announced its intention to liquidate, having over \$2,500,000 in cash at its command. Most of you know how successful the liquidation has been. Already the sum due the assisting banks has been reduced to three quarters of a million.

#### COURSE OF THE MONEY MARKET—GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANKS.

Early in the summer, as I have already said, the reserves of the larger banks began to fall to a point which at least made careful managers uncomfortable. The leading banks were at the time paying three per cent. for deposits, while the Government Savings Banks were paying four per cent. The stringency in money, added to this competition on the part of the Government, forced the banks to put the rate for deposits up to four per cent., and to make the minimum rate for discounts seven per cent. No one realizes more clearly than a prudent banker how severely an additional burden of even one per cent. interest bears upon the merchant.

In rapidly growing countries it has always been found that the annual savings of the people are more than required to meet the annual increase in the discount requirements of traders. When this is not so in a young and growing country it must be because its people lack enterprise. Yet, during the last twenty years, a period of unusual enterprise in

Canada, as much as \$40,000,000 of money has been diverted from the channels of trade and has passed into the two classes of Government savings banks.

It is not my intention to discuss the wisdom of having such institutions as Government savings banks. Although the Post Office Savings Banks of Great Britain have never been allowed to interfere seriously with the business of banking, the average balance of each depositor being only at £13, yet Mr. Goschen has recently spoken very strongly regarding the impropriety of the Government undertaking to act as a banker, pointing out that while there may be some excuse for departing from a sound policy in order that the poorer classes may be given facilities for saving, there is no excuse for the Government providing such facilities for the benefit of those who can be sufficiently provided for by the ordinary banks.

But what I do wish to point out is that the absorption of money in this way by the Government must have a direct tendency to increase the cost of interest to the mercantile community, or, what is practically the same thing, to prevent that cost from being reduced : a time when the tendency elsewhere in the world is toward reduction.

If the banks had control of this money the bulk of it would of course go to increase the volume of discounts, but the reserves of bankers would clearly be larger in the aggregate amount, and would also undoubtedly be larger in proportion to the whole sum loaned. If, therefore, through the failure of a crop, a certain amount of contraction in the volume of discounts had to be brought about, the percentage of such contraction to the whole volume of discounts would be smaller, and the stringency would bear less heavily on the mercantile community. So plain is this to outsiders that at the moment of the failure of the Central Bank, the editor of the London *Economist* wrote as follows :—

“ It is to be noted that the ability of the Canadian banks to enlarge their advances whenever an extra demand is thrown

upon them is curtailed to some extent by the action of the Canadian Government, which allows excessively high rates upon the Savings Banks deposits, and so draws away money from the banks."

I am aware that all this has been said over and over again, but it cannot be repeated too often. However it is a great satisfaction to know that the Government appreciates the situation to some extent and has obtained power to reduce the rate of interest. We can only hope that this power will be exercised by a reduction of the rate to three per cent. before the coming autumn.

I would now like to say a few words regarding the main branches of business in which the Bank's money is loaned.

#### THE LUMBER TRADE.

The largest interest the Bank has is in the shape of loans to lumber merchants. The winter before last was unfavourable for lumbering operations, and the drought in the ensuing summer prevented a considerable amount of logs reaching the mills, and also was the cause of many bush fires. The fires forced some of our customers to increase their cut for the winter immediately past. This last winter, however, has been a most favourable one for operations in the woods, there has been no difficulty in respect to driving the logs, and an ample supply will reach the mills. The demand for lumber has been and still is very good, sales covering most of the season's cut have already been made by many mills, and as the price has been steadily maintained, a very large and profitable business may be regarded as assured to the millers this summer. As most of the cut is sold in the United States either for cash, or on time to houses of very high standing, the marketing of this, our most important product, is always readily accomplished. If anything were needed to demonstrate the great value of our forests, the prices recently paid for limits at the sale by the Ontario Government, and the prices at which many other limits have changed hands during the year, should remove all doubt. There may come a time

when the values of limits will be over-estimated, but if bankers make their advances only for the purpose of manufacturing lumber, and see that these advances are cleared up once in each year, the business should continue to be as highly satisfactory as it has been for some years past.

#### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Another business of very large interest to us is that of the manufacture of agricultural implements. I notice the remark of the General Manager of the Bank of Montreal to the effect that this business is overdone. It is probably true that the smaller manufacturers, and some of the less competent, are being pushed out of the field, but the very great success attending the chief manufacturers in Ontario hardly goes to show that the business has been seriously overdone as yet, although such a condition is not improbable in the near future. The most able of our customers in this line require less and less money from us every year, and are fast becoming their own bankers. Although the past winter has been such a severe one upon farmers, I find that in the case of one of our agricultural implement customers (an exceptionally well-managed business it is true) a very large amount of farmers' notes—running into hundreds of thousands of dollars—maturing from October 1st, 1887, to January 1st, 1888, were, by the end of March, paid to the extent of over 96 per cent.

#### FLOUR MILLING.

The business of flour milling, in which we are largely interested, is frequently spoken of as being in a bad state, and undoubtedly it is not in a satisfactory condition. Very few of the small millers can apparently do more than hold their own, if they can do that. Our customers, however, are mainly millers in a large way, and have in almost every case been successful of late years. The margin of profit is indeed very small, but millers who make a large annual output, buying their wheat wisely and selling their flour in the Mari-

time Provinces, practically for cash, are always able to make a reasonable return upon their investment. The profits have averaged as well this last season as in recent years.

#### FARM PRODUCTS.

Other products in which the Bank has each season a comparatively large interest are cheese, eggs and flax. The output of about 700 cheese factories in Ontario this year amounted in value to nearly seven million dollars. Both output and price were considerably in advance of the previous year. The export of eggs to the United States has increased steadily for several years. During the last season nearly 16,000,000 dozen were exported from Ontario to the United States at a declared value, for customs purposes, of nearly \$2,000,000. In the case of both cheese and eggs, while the farmer obtained good prices, the dealers were not so fortunate, having through competition or other causes, paid rather too much for the respective articles. The flax crop during the past year was about one-fifth larger than for some years past, but suffered along with the grain crops from the drought. It has always been a readily saleable commodity in the United States, where its competition with Russian and other hemp is beginning to be felt, but the inferior quality of our crop this year, added to other causes, has made it difficult to sell even at a considerably lower price than that obtained in previous seasons.

The cattle business for the past few years has been in a very bad way, but we have confined our business in that connection chiefly to advances to graziers, doing very little in connection with shipments to Great Britain. I understand, however, that some large shipments made this spring have paid a handsome profit, and it may be that we are to see a better state of things in this trade hereafter.

We have thirty-five offices in Ontario, and the transactions passing through the Bank are a reasonably fair index as to the condition of the Province. I have gone somewhat

into detail regarding several branches of trade in order to show that every year we are arriving at a greater diversity of mercantile interests, by which banking is rendered much safer than in the past. While much remains to be accomplished in this way, we have already reached a point where the misfortunes of one or two large mercantile interests can hardly destroy the prosperity of a well-conducted bank for the particular year in question.

It is very far from my purpose, however, to belittle in any way the serious loss the farmers of the Province have sustained by the failure of the grain crops, a loss amounting probably to \$7,000,000 or \$8,000,000. This great loss has affected the profits of merchants and manufacturers of all kinds; but its influence has been felt more by dry goods and kindred lines than by others, and of course with all classes of importers we have large interests.

#### IMPORTING BUSINESS.

The failures among the wholesale dry goods merchants have been serious enough to make everybody reflect upon the condition of that particular business.

We are all preaching and listening to preaching about over-importations, long credit, and too easy credit, and about the duties of importers and of bankers, but it is much easier to do this than to find any remedy for the difficulty, except the ordinary one of the survival of those who are the fittest through capacity, integrity, and capital to make a success of the business in which so many have failed.

Over-importation or over-production at home—much the same thing—is as you know the chief mercantile evil all over the world at present. Steam and electricity have given an immense help to the power of producing, of carrying and distributing, and of buying and selling goods. The cable, however, has also given us great power to check the evil as soon as it is apparent, and I have no doubt it was freely used for that purpose during the winter. But periods of congestion from over-production or over-importation we must expect to

have, and all we may hope to do is to use our best judgment and call a halt at the first sign of danger. In Canada the evil is doubtless aggravated by our limited market.

A great deal is always said at such a time as this about the evils of long credits. The critics are apt to forget that many merchants and bankers are steadily labouring against it in good as well as in bad years. But how is the Canadian importer to shorten his credit to retailers as long as English and Scotch sellers offer goods on terms of credit which no sound importer here would think of offering, but with which he must compete somehow if he is to sell his goods? The banker, however, can gather some comfort from the fact that long credits are now restricted to certain classes of trade. Twenty years ago our lumber and flour, and many other products of the soil, were sold on long time to weak buyers, and the losses from granting such credits were somewhat akin to those experienced by importers to-day. The active competition and consequent cutting down of profits has in these trades at least produced the result of sales either for cash, or to men of such standing as to represent practically cash.

Perhaps the greatest evil is that of granting credit too readily, having regard to capacity and ability to pay. I refer to what are commonly called supply accounts. I find that the credit extended to the class of retailers who do not receive any particular indulgence from wholesale houses, averages about six or seven months. This is doubtless a long credit, but the class of storekeepers who are supported by wholesale houses do not as an average pay for their goods in less than twelve or fifteen months. Despite the dating ahead, the intense competition and the other evils inevitable in the somewhat overdone condition of business all over the world, the importing business would from a banker's point of view be reasonably healthy if this particularly bad element were removed.

Our very large foreign business causes us to be interested, at times, in products from all portions of the globe, and these



interests have required unusual care during the past year. The folly of trying to corner raw products, and the disturbing effects of such attempts upon the operations of legitimate traders, have been shown in the most marked manner by the collapse of huge speculations in wheat, cotton, coffee, tin, etc. We are pleased to say that we have passed through these troubles without loss.

It is perhaps not worth while to try and forecast the future. The prospects for the fall wheat are, as you know, indifferent, and other crops suffered somewhat from the late spring and want of rain, but the crop prospects on the whole are now fairly good. Importations have doubtless been much curtailed, although probably not enough, and a severer warning than we have yet had may be necessary before over-production in certain kinds of manufactures is sufficiently lessened. It is clear that unceasing vigilance will have to be observed by all classes of business men for some time to come in the importation and manufacture of goods, the extending of credit, and the collection of debts. But if we will take our lessons seriously enough all will go well, and we will be none the worse in the end for the storm we have passed through.

Mr. Wardrop—Would the General Manager be kind enough to inform us if the contingent fund shown last year as \$455,000 has been used?

Mr. Walker—Not all of it. There is something in the neighbourhood of \$300,000 remaining at the credit of the fund, but I do not think it wise to look upon it as an asset of the Bank. I said something to the Shareholders last year on this point. We know that the fund is ample, and probably more than ample, to provide for all bad and doubtful debts, but it is much wiser for the Shareholders to suppose that the money is lost than to put it forward as a surplus.

Senator Gowan expressed his great satisfaction at the able speeches of the President and Vice-President, and the admirable address of the General Manager. He said:—It is

very rarely, and I have attended a good many bank meetings, that I have heard so full, candid, and business-like statements as those which have now been given to the Shareholders. I do not entirely agree with the General Manager on some of the broad points he has discussed, particularly in connection with the Savings Banks, but from a banker's point of view he is no doubt quite correct. I have attended, as I have said, a good many meetings of the Bank, but I have never heard statements that so commend themselves to my judgment, for practical sense and straightforward candor, as those which have been brought before us to-day. I hope that every one here will be as satisfied as I am with the straightforward and thoroughly business-like statements we have heard. When the directorate does not hesitate to take into its confidence the stockholders, I always think it is a very good sign. Nine and a quarter per cent. seems a small return to make on our capital, but if it is compared with other institutions it may be considered fair, and on the whole I must say that I think it is satisfactory. The year has not been a favourable year, and the contingencies that have arisen have been calculated to affect the business of banking and to diminish the profits. It has certainly involved greater watchfulness on the part of the management. The questions asked have been satisfactorily answered, and I think the tone of the meeting shows that the confidence which is felt in the Bank in my part of the country is felt very generally elsewhere.

With regard to the contingent account, of course its very name implies that the fund is there for any contingencies that may arise. In other institutions large sums have been saved on such appropriations, and it may be so with regard to this contingent fund of ours, but, like Cicero, our point of view about the account should be this, "Hope for the best, be prepared for the worst, and make up your mind to bear with equanimity whatever happens."

The President—I can assure the Hon. Mr. Gowan that it is very gratifying to us to hear such remarks from so criti-

cal ? Shareholder as himself. We are here to answer candidly any questions which may be put, and we are perfectly ready to afford our Shareholders any information to which they are entitled.

No further questions being asked, the resolution to adopt the Report was put and carried.

Moved by Mr. W. B. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. M. Leggat, that By-law No. 1, as passed by the Shareholders on 12th July, 1887, be hereby repealed, and the following be and is hereby enacted in its stead :

"The Board of Directors of the Bank shall be eight in number, of whom three shall constitute a quorum. No Shareholder shall be eligible as a Director unless he holds, and has held for thirty days prior to his election, in his own name and right, and not as trustee or in other representative capacity, at least five thousand dollars of the paid-up capital stock of the Bank, and no Director shall hold office as such after he has ceased to be the holder of at least the said amount of paid-up stock. In case a Director makes a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, or his estate is placed in bankruptcy or liquidation under the provisions of any statute relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, such Director shall forthwith cease to be a member of the Board."

Mr. Sheriff McConkey, of Barrie, moved, "That the thanks of the meeting are due, and are hereby tendered, to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year." The motion was briefly seconded by Mr. John Y. Reid, and was carried unanimously.

Mr. Darling—I can assure you that to receive such an acknowledgment from the Shareholders is a great encouragement in the very responsible duties that devolve on us from year to year.

It was then moved by Mr. Geo. Roach:—"That the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager, and other officers of the Bank for

the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year." Mr. Roach, in moving this resolution, spoke as follows:—I am sure, after the very lucid statement made by the General Manager, the Shareholders must feel a great deal of confidence in the new management. I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Walker for many years, and wherever he is known I am sure he enjoys the confidence of monied men. I hope that in moving this resolution it will not be out of place to remark that it is very essential we should have the very best men as managers of the institution. We have seen in another quarter a fearful example this year of inefficient bank management, and while we expect from our own officers very important duties, we should also remember that they should be well paid for doing these duties. Good men cannot be too well paid. I have great pleasure in moving the resolution.

The resolution was briefly seconded by Mr. Hugh Ryan and carried.

Moved by Mr. John Scott, seconded by Mr. D. E. Thomson, "That the ballot box be now opened and remain open until three o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballots for the election of Directors; the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered."

The meeting then adjourned.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected as Directors for the ensuing year: Henry W. Darling, Geo. A. Cox, Geo. Taylor, W. B. Hamilton, Jas. Crathern, John I. Davidson, Wm. Gooderham, Matthew Leggat.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors held subsequently, Henry W. Darling, Esq., was re-elected President, and Geo. A. Cox, Esq., Vice-President.

B. E. WALKER,  
General Manager.

Toronto, 19th June, 1888.



LONDON, ONT.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL PAID-UP	- - - - -	\$6,000,000
REST	- - - - -	\$700,000

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## *DIRECTORS:*

HENRY W. DARLING, ESQ.,	-	PRESIDENT.
GEO. A. COX, ESQ.,	- - - -	VICE-PRESIDENT.
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.		WM. GOODERHAM, ESQ.
JAS. CRATHERN, ESQ.		JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.
W. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.		MATTHEW LEGGAT, ESQ.

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B. E. WALKER, General Manager.	
J. H. PLUMMER, Asst. General Manager.	
A. H. IRELAND, Inspector.	G. de C. O'GRADY, Asst. Inspector.

## BRANCHES

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### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL.....A. M. CROMBIE.....Manager.

### ONTARIO—

AYR.....	JOHN WYLLIE.....	Agent.
BARRIE.....	H. H. MORRIS.....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE.....	C. M. STORK.....	"
BERLIN.....	D. B. DEWAR.....	"
BLenheim.....	R. C. MACPHERSON.....	"
BRANTFORD.....	JEFFERY HALE.....	"
CHATHAM.....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
COLLINGWOOD.....	JAS. BRYDON.....	"
DUNDAS.....	C. E. PANGMAN.....	"
DUNNVILLE.....	F. C. MINTY.....	"
GALT.....	W. THOMPSON.....	"
GODERICH.....	R. S. WILLIAMS.....	"
GUELPH.....	B. R. MCCONKEY.....	"
HAMILTON.....	WM. ROBERTS.....	"
JARVIS.....	H. J. GRASETT.....	"
LONDON.....	H. A. NICHOLSON.....	"
ORANGEVILLE.....	B. SHEPHERD.....	"
OTTAWA.....	ROBT. GILL.....	"
PARIS.....	R. C. JENNINGS.....	"
PARKHILL.....	J. M. DUFF.....	"
PETERBORO.....	WM. MANSON.....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	F. O. CROSS.....	"
SARNIA.....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SAULT STE. MARIE.....	D. MCGREGOR.....	Act. Mgr.
SEAFORTH.....	JOHN AIRD.....	Manager.
SIMCOE.....	E. COWDRY.....	"
STRATFORD.....	W. MAYNARD, JR.....	"
STRATHROY.....	L. H. DAMPIER.....	"
THOROLD.....	W. J. ROBERTSON.....	"
TORONTO.....	J. C. KEMP.....	"
".....	I. BOLSTER.....	Sub Mgr.



## BRANCHES—Continued.

EAST TORONTO .....	A. BRADLEY .....	Manager.
NORTH TORONTO.....	R. J. MONTGOMERY.....	"
N.W. TORONTO.....	R. C. MCHARRIE .....	"
WALKERTON .....	G. W. MCKEE.....	"
WINDSOR .....	H. B. WALKER .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"

## UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK . . . . . { ALEX. LAIRD . . . . . } Agents  
 { WM. GRAY . . . . . }

## BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

GREAT BRITAIN—

**The Bank of Scotland (Incorporated 1695).**

## INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN—

**The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.**

PARIS, FRANCE—

**Lazard Frères & Cie.**

## BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—

**J. Matthieu & Fils.**

## NEW YORK—

**The American Exchange National Bank of New York.**

SAN FRANCISCO—

**The Bank of British Columbia.**

## CHICAGO—

**The American Exchange National Bank of Chicago.**

BRITISH COLUMBIA—

**The Bank of British Columbia.**

# GENERAL STATEMENT

31ST MAY, 1889.

## LIABILITIES

### *To the Public.*

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$ 2,406,618 00
Deposits not bearing interest .....	2,768,164 66
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date .....	9,321,709 03
Balances due other Banks in Canada .....	10,068 16
Balances due Agents in Great Britain .....	1,587,012 61
Unclaimed Dividends .....	956 53
Dividend No. 44, payable 1st June .....	210,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$16,304,528 99

### *To the Shareholders.*

Capital paid-up .....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest .....	700,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward .....	33,912 28
	<hr/>
	6,733,912 28
	<hr/>
	\$23,038,441 27

## ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 515,136 23
Dominion Notes .....	700,402 00
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks .....	501,572 16
Balances due by other Banks in Canada .....	97,058 06
Balances due by Agents of the Bank in the United States ..	1,034,140 56
British, Canadian, and U.S. Government Securities, Municipal and other Stocks and Bonds .....	1,048,831 84
Call and Short Loans on Stocks and Bonds .....	816,772 89
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,713,913 74
Time Loans on Stocks and Bonds .....	1,486,592 92
Other Current Loans and Discounts .....	15,987,973 74
Bills Discounted Overdue, not specially secured (loss fully provided for) .....	76,022 14
Overdue Debts, secured .....	45,900 18
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises) and Mortgages ...	244,886 49
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	483,152 06
	<hr/>
	\$23,038,441 27

B. E. WALKER, General Manager.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,  
Toronto, 31st May, 1889.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

### TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

HELD AT THE BANKING HOUSE, TORONTO,  
ON TUESDAY, 18TH JUNE, 1889.

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The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was held in the Banking House, Toronto, on Tuesday, 18th June, 1889, at twelve o'clock noon. Among those present were Messrs. Henry W. Darling, George A. Cox, John I. Davidson, Matthew Leggat, Hamilton; Wm. Gooderham, W. B. Hamilton, George Taylor, Hugh Ryan, John M. Bond, Guelph; T. D. McConkey, Barrie; John Scott, Rev. J. H. Starr, Alex. Nairn, Walter S. Lee, Philip Browne, R. H. Temple, Thos. Walmsley, David McGee, Edward Mitchell, Hamilton; George Robinson, Summerhill; B. M. Britton, Kingston; P. M. Morrison, agent of the Presbyterian Church in Canada; and Rev. R. H. Warden, Montreal.

On motion the President, Mr. Henry W. Darling, took the chair, and Mr. J. H. Plummer, the Assistant General Manager, was appointed Secretary to the meeting.

It was moved by Mr. W. B. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Wm. Gooderham, that Messrs. Philip Browne, R. H. Temple, and Henry M. Pellatt act as scrutineers.

The President then read the Annual Report of the Directors, as follows:

## REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the twenty-second Annual Report, covering the year ending 31st May, 1889, together with the usual Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Bank.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account

brought forward from last year is .....\$ 15,799 11

The net profits for the year ending 31st May,  
after providing for all bad and doubtful

debts, amounted to ..... 538,113 17

\$553,912 28

Which has been appropriated as follows :

Dividends Nos. 43 and 44, at seven per cent.

per annum.....\$420,000 00

Transferred to Rest Account..... 100,000 00

Balance carried forward..... 33,912 28

\$553,912 28

The past year has not been unfavourable to banking, having regard to the risks of the business. Our profits, however, are not as large as in former years. Rates for money for the main part of the year have ruled exceptionally low, and the customary profits from exchange operations have been seriously diminished by competition, small exports, and the condition of the money markets in London and New York.

Out of the net earnings for the year, amounting to \$538,113.17, the customary dividends at the rate of seven per cent. per annum have been paid, and the sum of \$100,000 transferred to the Rest Account, the undivided profits carried forward being \$33,912.28.

The entire assets have been subjected to the usual annual re-valuation, and the fullest provision has been made for every debt, current or in default, in which there is an element of doubt. The branches of the Bank and the Head Office Department have been inspected during the year.

A branch of the Bank was opened in April last at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, and the business already done has exceeded the expectations on which our decision to open at that point was based.

It has been found necessary to replace the circulation of the Bank with a new issue of notes, and owing to the ability of counterfeiters to reproduce ordinary bank note engraving, much attention has been devoted to the subject. The Directors believe that the new notes afford the most complete safeguard against counterfeiting known at the present time.

Considerable repairs and improvements to the Bank's various establishments have been found necessary, including new vaults, safes, etc., and the cost of these and of the new bank notes referred to has materially increased our expenses.

We are looking forward to the occupancy of the premises now being built for the head offices of the Bank, next autumn. An advantageous sale of our present premises has already been arranged.

The Directors have pleasure in again bearing testimony to the zeal and efficiency with which the officers of the Bank, of every grade, have fulfilled their duties throughout the year.

HENRY W. DARLING,

President.

Toronto, 12th June, 1889.

In moving the adoption of the Report Mr. Darling spoke as follows :

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The duty which now devolves upon me is a pleasing one, as the Report presented is a record of progress and prosperity. This is demonstrated by the figures themselves ; but the emphasis after all must be laid upon the care with which the assets of the Bank have been valued, and the due provision which has been made for bad debts and contingencies. The language of the Report admits of no misapprehension or qualification upon this point ; and in the further facts that

the Shareholders have received what must be regarded as a large dividend in these days, that the handsome sum of \$100,000 has been added to the Rest, and a balance of \$33,912 undivided profits carried forward, we should find cause for satisfaction and encouragement. It may be further stated that in almost every respect we have gained ground during the year. As you will notice, our circulation and deposits both show substantial increase.

The assets of the Bank generally, through the liquidation of old matters, have been greatly improved. The three new city branches opened last year have proved quite successful, and the new one opened a few months ago at the Sault is already taking its place with the others. The new issue of notes, as they pass from hand to hand convey the impression to the public, as they ought to do, of our strength and standing; and we are sanguine they will prove durable and difficult to counterfeit.

At the various branches we have sought to give further evidence of every needed precaution being taken to secure the Bank's property, while affording to the public those facilities and conveniences in the transaction of their business which are necessary, and conducive at the same time to the health of the Bank's officers. It may be mentioned that we have still some further work to do in this line, which we hope to overtake at an early date. The appearance of our new head office building, even in its present unfinished condition, is highly creditable to the architect, and its generous proportions seem to commend themselves to competent judges of street architecture as at once chaste and dignified. We hope that at the next Annual Meeting the Shareholders will find us in the occupation of the much-needed premises, with a substantial rent roll from the numerous offices to be let. We are fortunate in having disposed of our present building in good season; and the Shareholders will be gratified to know that the total expenditure upon our new building so far has not exceeded our original estimate.

The rapid increase in the value of real estate in the city of Toronto for the past few years has given the Board cause for satisfaction that so eligible a site for the headquarters of the Bank was secured in good time. We rejoice in the evidence of the prosperity and growth of Toronto, so abundant all around us; the more that we are persuaded it is largely of a substantial and lasting character.

It is not the less true, however, that rash speculation is being indulged in in suburban properties, which are being sold to parties in various parts of the country who are probably ignorant of their real geographical position, at prices far in excess of their productive value for many years to come, even under the most favourable circumstances; and I think it proper these outside speculators should know that those who are the most competent to judge of such matters, in the city, are holding aloof from such investments, and predict for the victims of the army of real estate brokers and commercial travellers, who are now pushing the sales of these outside properties, a sorry harvest, which will surely be reaped.

They are no friends of the city who say or do anything to encourage a continuance of this suburban real estate boom, and speculative builders would do well to call a halt in their operations until the present provision for the prospective increase of Toronto's population has been absorbed, both by occupation and investment; for it must be evident to every observer that much of this speculation is on slim margins, which will disappear on slight relaxations of values.

Properties in the business part of the city, and on the better residential streets, are still well within interest-producing figures, and are held by solid investors. To these, and to the individuals and corporations who, like ourselves, have a large stake in city property, the administration of our municipal affairs is becoming a matter of serious import. As applied to cities, our municipal government, despite the faithful and arduous labour of a public-spirited alderman here and there, must be regarded as a failure.

The revenue of this city is rapidly increasing, and will soon exceed that of the rich province of Ontario. A broad, comprehensive, far-seeing policy of efficient administration, consistently and honestly carried out, must be substituted for the shifting schemes, the creation of designing aldermen, who are here in the plenitude of power to-day and away in the irresponsible realm of private life to-morrow; and the business men of this city cannot too soon address themselves to the subject of better municipal administration. Why should not Toronto attract the services of a few honest, earnest men, like his Worship Mayor Clarke, competent to fill the leading administrative positions in civic affairs, who would give their whole time to the work, and be paid accordingly?

We venture to remark that the decision of the City Council recently arrived at to carry on the work of the erection of the new Municipal Buildings by one of their own committees, in place of entrusting the duties to commissioners, to which in unmistakable terms they pledged themselves when asking the consent of the citizens to a large increase of money for the work, constitutes a breach of faith unparalleled, perhaps, in the history of municipal government on this continent.

In banking it would be termed, in plain language, obtaining money under false pretences.

As the General Manager has something to say to you in review of the business of the year, I shall close by formally moving the adoption of the Report.

The resolution was briefly seconded by Mr. Geo. A. Cox, the Vice-President.

The President having called on the General Manager to address the meeting, Mr. Walker made the following remarks:

#### THE GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

Immediately before the beginning of our banking year in June last the money market experienced a sharp change from a condition of considerable stringency to one of ease.



The stringency which was relaxing in a natural manner by liquidation following the many failures of the preceding winter and spring, was entirely removed by large sums of money forced upon the market through the floating abroad of Dominion Government and other loans, the deposits in banks increasing in one month as much as \$7,000,000. In the effort to put out this money the rates for ordinary mercantile risks were brought to a point which is usually regarded as the minimum, while rates obtainable for the unusually large surplus of funds which could not be loaned for mercantile purposes shrunk to a much more serious extent. In London for nearly six months in the year the discount rate averaged  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. per annum higher than the rates for call money in New York. Under these conditions, added to a decline in exports from America, our sterling exchange business has been much less profitable than usual, and the rates obtainable in New York for our surplus funds altogether unremunerative. For the entire year the rate for call money in New York has averaged only  $2\frac{1}{8}$  per cent.

But while the condition of banking as far as making profits is concerned has been unfavourable, the risks incident to the business have not been above the average in most lines. It is true that it has not been a year in which enterprise has yielded a reasonable profit; and many failures have taken place—due in most cases to the troubles of previous seasons—the losses from which, however, must be borne by the creditors out of the meagre profits of the current year.

#### PROSPECTS FOR THE YEAR.

Nevertheless, on the whole, we close the banking year with a distinctly more hopeful feeling, both in view of the improvement in the conditions of business from the weeding out of weak traders, and the sounder methods which naturally follow when the evils of expansion have been felt; and in view of the excellent crop prospects.

At this time last year the promise of the crop was at best indifferent, but in Ontario it turned out better than our hopes, and had our farmers and dealers accepted the high prices which obtained for a time we should have had no cause for complaint. Notwithstanding the repeated warnings of the past, the idea that America had nothing to export and that the world had not wheat enough to last over until next crop, took possession of both farmers and dealers, and, as a consequence, considerable wheat held over by them cannot now be marketed except at a loss of 25 to 30 cents a bushel. It is to be feared, however, that the situation is more serious than this alone would indicate. Last fall, when dealers were carried away by speculation, prices were pushed up in the United States and Canada, until about the first of November wheat was quoted in Toronto at \$1.25 per bushel, against \$1.15 at Chicago, and \$1.11 at New York. In Liverpool the price was equal to about \$1.17 per bushel, so that allowing for freight our Canadian wheat was 23c. per bushel above the prices at which it could be exported. This state of things could only be justified by Canada having no surplus to export, and by the inability of the United States millers to sell flour in Canada and pay the duty of 50 cents per barrel. We now find that neither of these conditions exists. In the United States prices adjust themselves to surrounding facts more quickly than in Canada, and the United States millers are now supplying our customers in the Maritime Provinces with flour, readily paying the duty, while wheat in New York has fallen to an export basis. In Manitoba large stocks of high priced wheat are held. In Ontario our farmers and dealers have a larger stock of wheat than usual, and our millers a very large stock of flour, both articles being almost unsaleable. On the 1st of June the relative prices were 78c. in Chicago, 81c. in New York, and 93c. in Toronto, our price being still about 14c. above an export basis. With this state of facts it seems clear that unless the duty on United States flour is advanced to \$1 per barrel (I am not advocating such a mea-

sure, but merely stating facts), or unless our crop prospects suddenly turn dark and disappointing, the surplus of wheat and flax must fall to the export price. In any event the dealer has had a bad year, losing a large amount of money, and the millers, who six or eight months ago, were doing well, have a most gloomy outlook ahead of them.

#### CROPS.

Apart from the heavy rains our present crop prospects in Ontario are very good indeed. The acreage of fall wheat, which was largely reduced last year, appears to have increased this year, and reports from all points as to its condition are of the most promising kind. Spring wheat, oats, pease, and barley are practically unhurt by the late frosts and promise a very large yield, the acreage of barley being somewhat reduced owing to the collapse in the price this spring. The damage by frost to fruit is very great—a serious matter in some localities where fruit-growing is the main industry. The hay crop promises to be large, and it is fully expected that more cheese will be made even than last year. The official statements of the shipments of cheese from Canada and the United States, for the year ending 31st March, show that our export amounted to 88,000,000 lbs., while that of the United States was about 84,000,000 lbs.; the value of our shipments being about \$8,500,000 against \$7,000,000 for the previous year. The quality of our cheese is now thoroughly recognized, and if we have special geographical and other advantages for its manufacture, there seems no reason why the present large figures, which have grown out of nothing in twenty-five or thirty years, should not be indefinitely increased.

A great deal has been said of late as to the wisdom of encouraging the making of creamery butter. That it is desirable to make butter of first quality to the extent that it will find a market at home, there can be no doubt, but making it for export is quite another thing. It is not probable that we can manufacture butter which, after transportation to Great Britain or the continent of Europe, will have been made at

such a price and will arrive in such perfect condition as to compete successfully with that of Denmark and Sweden. As we have found a market thus far for our cheese, an article which does not suffer by long carriage, it is worth considering whether we can make butter on a large scale as profitably.

#### THE LUMBER TRADE.

The condition of the great lumber interests of Canada is on the whole satisfactory. The winter operations were conducted under favourable circumstances, the lack of snow in the early winter permitting extensive cutting, while sufficient snow fell later in the season in Canada, although not in Michigan, to enable the logs to be readily drawn to water. Some fear existed in the early spring as to the sufficiency of water in the streams, but the recent rains have dispelled all doubt, and we are assured that in all lumber districts in Ontario there will be a plentiful supply of logs, the cost of labour expended on which will not exceed that in previous seasons.

The cut of logs in the Ottawa district is nearly twenty-five per cent. less than last year, but more square timber has been manufactured than in any season since 1882-83. The sawing season began early, and the actual manufacture apart from square timber will probably be greater than last year. Large sales of timber and deals have been made for the English market at an advance in prices, and this branch of the trade is in a distinctly good position.

Large contracts have also been made for lumber of medium and low grades for the United States and South American markets at a slight advance in prices, but this condition is hardly likely to be maintained.

In connection with our outlet for lumber in South America, we must bear in mind that shipments of magnificent lumber are being made from Puget Sound to Buenos Ayres, and strong competition for the ultimate possession of that market will be sure to take place. The southern pine, now thoroughly introduced into the Eastern United States markets,

is brought into competition with our pine, to an extent which may sooner or later prove quite serious. For outside work it is not of much use, but for cheap interior building it is being used more and more every year. There is no fear that it can displace the finer northern pine except to a limited extent; but the great power of lumber production in the Northern and Southern States, added to our own, makes the danger of over-production greater and greater every year. It would probably be much in the interests of our lumbermen if they could be induced for a few years to limit their output, with a view to reducing the large and increasing stocks held in the various lumber markets.

It is to be hoped that the recent increase in the export duty on logs will be removed, even if we may not also hope for the entire removal of this duty.

The profits of manufacturers based on limits bought some years ago are still doubtless large, but this is not the case with limits bought at the recent high prices. It is, in fact, quite clear that the operations of some firms on limits recently acquired have been very disappointing.

#### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The manufacture of harvesting machinery has been so largely and successfully developed in Ontario that in any review of our business it commands a prominent place. The output during the present season will be probably ten to fifteen per cent. in excess of last year, and while the profits have been curtailed by competition the large and perfectly equipped establishments are making as much money as could be expected in view of the quantity now manufactured. The collections—the great point with a banker—have been quite up to the level of former years, the experience of the largest companies being that of the enormous amount of farmers' paper maturing in October, November, December, and January last, not more than five or six per cent. remained unpaid by the first of May; any renewals granted being counted in

the unpaid percentage. The length of the credit to the farmer has been lessened considerably, and every year sales are being more carefully made. But, while the great manufacturing companies are doing well the case is different with the smaller ones. The selling prices during the last four years have fallen say twenty per cent., and although the perfectly equipped manufacturers have been able to bring about nearly an equivalent saving in labour and material, the small ones have been unable to effect this saving. As a consequence, of some twenty-two makers of harvesting machinery existing four years ago, only fifteen, I believe, are now left, and of these, four manufacture three-fourths of the entire product. Whether this is a good or a bad state of affairs, it is the natural course of manufacturing in a country where the growth of the market does not keep pace with the enterprise of the manufacturers. The three largest companies, all customers of this Bank, could, I presume, supply the wants of the whole of Canada unless the wants of the North-West grow very rapidly, as I sincerely hope they may. With this great power of producing cheaply, some of our friends are successfully finding a foreign market for their product, and should they be able to compete with the exporting manufacturers in the United States there may yet be a greater development of this industry than we have supposed possible. In order to compete successfully, however, the circumstances under which our machines are made must be as favourable, having regard to capital, cost of labour, cost of material, and means of transportation, as the conditions elsewhere.

#### OTHER MANUFACTURES.

In addition to reapers and binders the manufacture of the less important farm implements and of wagons is steadily increasing. The wholesale manufacture of wagons is now becoming an assured success here. The furniture business, the development of which to its present proportions has all been accomplished in fifteen or twenty years, is capable of unlimited enlargement provided a foreign market can be



MIDDLETON, N. S.





secured. All of these and many kindred industries are at present in a satisfactory condition. Depending as they do on our own raw materials, especially our hardwoods, of which we have an inexhaustible supply—destined to be of incalculable value to us—these are the natural manufactures of a country which for a long time yet must be mainly an agricultural country; and everything which the enterprise of our people or the wisdom of our legislators can do to make these industries successful, and enable us to use this raw material, should be regarded as of greater importance than the well-earned success attending our manufacturers whose raw materials have to be imported.

#### DISTRIBUTING BUSINESS.

The business of our wholesale dealers in dry goods, groceries, hardware, etc., is experiencing the same change as that which I have referred to in speaking of manufactures. The margin of profits is growing smaller, the expenses of conducting business greater, and as a consequence the tendency is in the direction of the large firms whose proportion of expenses to sales can be kept within reasonable limits gradually absorbing the trade. The weakest point in the distributing business, however, is of course the granting of credits; and as I have undertaken to make one comparison between the manufacturers and the importers, I will venture on another. The bad debts contracted by our wholesale merchants are mainly due to the failure of country storekeepers. The greater number of these storekeepers depend on their trade with farmers. It is a fact that notes of Ontario farmers for millions of dollars given to implement manufacturers are annually paid without appreciable loss. While this is the case, our country storekeepers carry the book debts of farmers year after year, and numbers of these storekeepers fail, owing alone to inability to make collections. I am aware that it is not anything like as easy for a storekeeper to collect his debts as it is for the farmer's other creditors, but this is surely to a great extent the fault of the storekeeper, in not

making the farmer regard his contracts with him in the same rigid manner as when a farmer gives a note for a binder or a wagon.

#### GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANKS.

A year ago we were all hoping, apparently with good reason, that the Government would reduce the rate of interest in the Government savings banks. We were even allowed to suppose that several millions of money had actually been borrowed abroad to fortify the Finance Department in case the lowering of the rate caused considerable withdrawals. Nothing, however, has been done, and as the supply of money in the hands of the banks happens to be plentiful, the matter has dropped out of the public mind for the moment. The Government began to pay the present rate of four per cent. at a time when some banks were paying as high as five per cent. Since that time the rate of interest all over the world has moved downward, under the influence of natural laws, but the Canadian Government Savings Banks alone have failed to respond to this movement. Everywhere progressive nations, states, provinces, municipalities, and business corporations, which are carrying debts represented by long term bonds, are considering how to lighten their burdens by schemes of conversion, or by renewals at a saving of interest. The city of Montreal is trying to get upon a three per cent. basis, the city of Toronto upon a three and a half per cent. basis; New York is issuing bonds at two and a half per cent., and our smaller cities are floating their issues at four per cent., obtaining nearly par therefor. Our Dominion Government, however, still seeks, by distributing printed advertisements, and by paying its postmasters a commission, to borrow money at a rate which, when expenses are taken into account, averages 4 1-10th per cent.

The ease with which every business venture, as well as every nation, carries its debt is mainly in proportion to the burden of interest it has to pay. It is of as great importance to every borrowing manufacturer, or merchant, or agriculturist

that he be relieved of his interest burden on his borrowings from banks, as it is to great corporations or governments. Hundreds of business ventures in Canada have failed because of the burden of an extra one per cent. interest spread over many years. If bankers find that their deposits grow rapidly from year to year they have no occasion to dread the lowering tendency of money, but if these deposits are to be largely absorbed by the Government, and if all deposits are to be competed for by the Government at a rate of interest which it is impossible for banks to pay, the result must be that interest rates to the borrower are kept above the natural level, and every borrowing manufacturer, merchant, and agriculturist should feel that the Government is thus imposing an additional burden upon him.

#### LOAN COMPANIES.

Many of the mortgage companies doing business in Ontario have power to borrow by deposits repayable on short notice, although their loans are made for terms of years. We are glad to notice that this power is being used by the strong and well-managed companies to a less extent than in the past. They have doubtless found by experience that as they lend on long terms they must also borrow on long terms. The ordinary deposits of these companies, instead of showing a large increase, have decreased about a million and a quarter during the past year, while the long term debentures payable in Canada have increased half a million, and those payable abroad three and a half millions.

#### BANK LIQUIDATIONS.

In my remarks at the last Annual Meeting I referred to the affairs of the Central Bank and the Federal Bank, the troubles of these two institutions at that time occupying public attention very much. It is a pleasure to be able to state that the liquidators of the Central Bank have already paid dividends amounting to 86 per cent., and expect eventually to pay the creditors in full. The liquidation of the Federal

Bank with open doors has been successfully and most rapidly accomplished so far as the creditors are concerned, and dividends to the Shareholders may shortly be expected. It is also a pleasure to state that the notes of the Maritime Bank have now been paid in full. This removes the only real stain which has thus far rested on the present banking system of Canada as far as the bank note issues are concerned.

Dealing as I am merely with the trade of Ontario, it may seem strange that I should ask you to listen to details and opinions about branches of business with which many of you are better acquainted than I am. But I do so because I am in fact speaking to a much larger audience than that assembled here. We have taken the trouble to add to our printed list of Shareholders an analysis showing the distribution of the stock of the Bank, and I will read this analysis to you in order that you may know how large an audience we address in our annual reports:

## DISTRIBUTION OF STOCK.

Held in	No. of Shareholders.	No. of Shares.
Province of Ontario.....	867	58,367
“ Quebec.....	430	36,749
“ Nova Scotia .....	207	13,913
Other provinces .....	31	1,658
Other countries.....	105	9,313
	<hr/> 1,640	<hr/> 120,000

The number of Shareholders is larger at present than it has ever been before. For ten years past it has averaged between 1,300 and 1,500, the exact average being 1,460.

## VOTES OF THANKS.

It was then moved by Mr. Hugh Ryan: "That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year."

Mr. Ryan said:—"I am sure that you are all equally satisfied with me that the gentlemen named in this resolution have given due attention to their work during the past year. I do not think there is any better criterion of the work done by the Directors than is to be found in the increased estimation in which the stock is held. I have therefore much pleasure in moving the resolution."

The motion was seconded by Sheriff McConkey, of Barrie, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Darling—I may say for myself and the other Directors that we deeply appreciate these resolutions of thanks. I can assure you the Directors do not lightly feel the responsibility devolving upon them in the important position to which you elect them from year to year. I can testify to the zeal and earnest attention given to the duties devolving on the Directors during the past year. They have been in their places steadily and regularly, and with all the ability at their command they have sought to sustain the hands of the General Manager and Assistant General Manager in the management of your affairs. If their efforts have been attended with success, it is not less gratifying to them than it is to you, and we thank you very cordially for your vote of thanks.

It was moved by Mr. Walter S. Lee "that the thanks of this meeting be tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager, and other officers of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year."

In moving this resolution Mr. Lee spoke as follows: "I regret very much that this resolution has not fallen into better hands, but it is one that will give me a great deal of pleasure to move, and will, I am sure, give the Shareholders equal pleasure to adopt. Some two years ago, you will remember, we started out on a new era, and at that date we had gone over our assets and ascertained our true position, with the assistance of your present officers. Now, these officers have brought the institution to a position no one could have

expected it to reach at the present time. This resolution is no idle one under these circumstances. There is no doubt the Shareholders are under many obligations to yourself, Mr. President, and feel that your energies have accomplished a great deal, but what could you have done without able lieutenants at your side?

I have very great pleasure, therefore, in moving this vote of thanks to the officers of the Bank."

Rev. Herbert Starr—"Allow me to say in a very informal manner, as a representative of the Shareholders in the Eastern Provinces, that I have listened with very great satisfaction and pleasure to your remarks, Mr. President, and those of the General Manager. At the time when the stock stood at 107, some of us who were interested felt it might go still lower. The information I gathered satisfied me, however, that the affairs of the Bank were on a very solid basis, and the progress since made has borne out that assurance. I am very much pleased and gratified at the statements made to day."

The resolution having been seconded by Mr. John M. Bond, of Guelph, was carried unanimously.

Mr. Walker briefly returned thanks for the staff, and added: "We have, it is true, made some progress during the past year, and I think we are continuing to do so. With reference to the figures shown in the statement, I can only say it is my aim, and that of the Assistant General Manager and of the Directors also, always to make sure they are a little better than they look."

Mr. Plummer also briefly responded.

Moved by Mr. Alexander Nairn, seconded by Mr. John Scott, and carried: "That the ballot box be now opened, and remain open until three o'clock this day, for the receipt of ballots for the election of Directors, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered."

The meeting then adjourned.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected Directors for the ensuing year: Henry W. Darling, George A. Cox, George Taylor, W. B. Hamilton, James Crathern, John I. Davidson, William Gooderham, Matthew Leggat.

At a meeting of the newly-elected board of Directors held subsequently, Henry W. Darling, Esq., was re-elected President, and George A. Cox, Esq., re-elected Vice-President.

B. E. WALKER,  
General Manager.





# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL PAID-UP	- - - - -	\$6,000,000
REST	- - - - -	\$ 800,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

GEORGE A. COX, ESQ.,	- - -	PRESIDENT.
JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.,	- - -	VICE-PRESIDENT.
JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.		WM. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.		MATTHEW LEGGAT, ESQ.
JOHN HOSKIN, ESQ., Q.C., LL.D.		ROBERT KILGOUR, ESQ.

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B. E. WALKER, General Manager.	
J. H. PLUMMER, Asst. General Manager.	
A. H. IRELAND, Inspector.	G. de C. O'GRADY, Asst. Inspector.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... A. M. CROMBIE..... **Manager.**

### ONTARIO—

AYR .....	JOHN WYLLIE.....	<b>Agent.</b>
BARRIE .....	H. H. MORRIS.....	<b>Manager.</b>
BELLEVILLE.....	C. M. STORK.....	"
BERLIN .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
BLENHEIM.....	R. C. MACPHERSON .....	"
BRANTFORD.....	JEFFERY HALE.....	"
CAYUGA .....	W. C. T. MORSON .....	"
CHATHAM .....	J. E. THOMAS .....	"
COLLINGWOOD.....	JAS. BRYDON.....	"
DUNDAS .....	C. E. PANGMAN.....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	R. G. W. CONOLLY.....	"
GAI .....	T. A. STEPHEN.....	"
GOVICH .....	R. S. WILLIAMS.....	"
GUELPH .....	B. R. MCCONKEY.....	"
HAMILTON .....	WM. ROBERTS.....	"
JARVIS .....	W. C. T. MORSON.....	"
LONDON .....	H. A. NICHOLSON.....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	W. W. RUTHVEN.....	"
OTTAWA .....	ROBERT GILL.....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. JENNINGS.....	"
PARKHILL.....	J. M. DUFF.....	"
PETERBORO .....	WM. MANSON .....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	F. O. CROSS.....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SAULT STE. MARIE .....	D. MCGREGOR .....	"
SEAFORTH .....	JOHN AIRD.....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	W. MAYNARD, JR.....	"
STRATHROY .....	L. H. DAMPIER.....	"
THOROLD.....	W. J. ROBERTSON.....	"
TORONTO (Chief Office) ..	JOHN C. KEMP.....	"
	L. BOLSTER.....	<b>Sub Mgr.</b>
798 QUEEN ST. EAST .....	A. BRADLEY.....	<b>Manager.</b>
448 YONGE, COR. COLLEGE.....	T. S. HARRISON.....	"
791 YONGE ST.....	R. J. MONTGOMERY.....	"
268 COLLEGE, COR. SPADINA.....	R. C. MCHARRIE.....	"
546 QUEEN ST. WEST.....	G. A. HOLLAND.....	"

**BRANCHES AND AGENCIES—Continued.**

WALKERTON .....	G. W. MCKEE.....	Manager.
WATERLOO .....	H. J. GRASETT.....	"
WINDSOR .....	H. B. WALKER.....	"
WOODSTOCK.....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"

UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK..... { ALEX. LAIRD ..... } Agents.  
 { WM. GRAY..... }

## BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

GREAT BRITAIN—

**The Bank of Scotland.**

## INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN—

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

**AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND—**

**The Union Bank of Australia, Limited.**

PARIS, FRANCE—

**Messrs. Lazard Frères & Cie.**

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—

**Messrs. J. Matthieu & Fils.**

NEW YORK—

The American Exchange National Bank of New York.

SAN FRANCISCO—

**The Bank of British Columbia.**

**CHICAGO—**

**The American Exchange National Bank of Chicago.**

BRITISH COLUMBIA—

**The Bank of British Columbia.**

HAMILTON, BERMUDA—

**The Bank of Bermuda.**

# GENERAL STATEMENT

31ST MAY, 1890.

## LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 2,458,803 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	\$2,772,898 27
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date.....	9,720,985 22
	12,493,883 49
Balances due to other Banks in Canada.....	9,009 15
Balances due to Foreign Correspondents.....	7,495 02
Balances due to Agents in Great Britain.....	577,873 59
Unclaimed Dividends.....	1,481 08
Dividend No. 46, payable 2nd June.....	210,000 00
Capital paid up.....	\$6,000,000 00
Reserve.....	800,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward.....	37,974 68
	6,837,974 68
	<u>\$22,596,520 01</u>

## ASSETS

Specie.....	\$ 464,068 58
Dominion Notes.....	678,378 75
	\$ 1,142,447 33
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	548,856 98
Balances due by other Banks in Canada.....	112,912 11
Balances due by Agents of the Bank in the U.S.....	1,154,997 55
British and Canadian Government Securities, Municipal and other Stocks and Bonds.....	1,145,994 41
Call and Short Loans on Stocks and Bonds.....	868,102 18
	\$ 4,973,310 56
Time Loans on Stocks and Bonds.....	494,149 08
Other Current Loans and Discounts.....	16,086,903 10
Bills Discounted Overdue, not specially secured (loss fully provided for).....	57,119 75
Overdue Debts, secured.....	80,764 85
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises).....	103,040 87
Mortgages.....	157,654 43
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	603,582 71
Other Assets.....	39,994 66
	<u>\$22,596,520 01</u>

B. F. WALKER, General Manager.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

## THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TUESDAY, 17TH JUNE, 1890.

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The twenty-third Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was held at the Head Office of the Bank on Tuesday, 17th June, 1890, at 12 o'clock noon. There was a fair attendance of Shareholders, amongst those present being : Messrs. Henry W. Darling, Geo. A. Cox, John I. Davidson, Matthew Leggat, Hamilton ; John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., W. B. Hamilton, George Taylor, Gilman Cheney, Montreal ; Edward Martin, Q.C., Hamilton ; Edward Mitchell, Hamilton ; Wm. Hendrie, Hamilton ; Rev. Dr. King, Winnipeg ; John Nicol, Ashburn ; Hugh Moore, Dundas ; John Battle, Thorold ; Samuel Nordheimer, John Y. Reid, David McGee, Geo. Robinson, Walter S. Lee, David Lewis, John Scott, Dr. Ogden, &c., &c.

On motion, the President, Mr. Henry W. Darling, was elected Chairman of the meeting, and Mr. J. H. Plummer, the Assistant General Manager, was appointed to act as Secretary.

It was moved by Mr. John Hoskin, Q.C., seconded by Mr. John I. Davidson, that Messrs. Philip Browne, R. H. Temple, and George T. Alexander act as scrutineers.

The President called upon the Secretary to read the Annual Report of the Directors as follows —

## REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the twenty-third Annual Report, covering the year ending 31st May, 1890, together with the usual Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account	
brought forward from last year is .....	\$ 33,912 28
The net profits for the year ending 31st May,	
after providing for all bad and doubtful	
debts, amounted to .....	524,062 40
	<u>\$557,974 68</u>

Which has been appropriated as follows :

Dividends Nos. 45 and 46 at seven per cent. per	
annum ....	\$420,000 00
Transferred to Rest Account .....	100,000 00
Balance carried forward .....	37,974 68
	<u>\$557,974 68</u>

It will be observed that the net earnings for the year, after making the usual full provision for all bad and doubtful debts and assets, amount to \$524,062.40, out of which we have paid the customary dividend of 7 per cent. and transferred to Rest Account \$100,000, carrying forward at credit of Profit and Loss Account \$37,974.68. In view of the somewhat difficult conditions under which banking has been carried on in Ontario during the past few years, it is hoped that these results will be satisfactory to the Shareholders.

The usual thorough revaluation of the entire assets of the Bank, and the fullest provision for every item about which there is an element of doubt, have been made. All the branches, agencies, and departments of the Bank have been inspected during the year.

Branches of the Bank have been opened during the year at Cayuga and Waterloo and at two additional points in the

city of Toronto, the new establishments being in each case the natural outgrowth of the business already enjoyed by the Bank.

Since our last Annual Meeting the Bank's new building in Toronto has been completed. The portion of the building reserved for our own use, which we have occupied since January, has proved to be admirably adapted to our purposes, and in every respect worthy of the institution. The beneficial effect of the change on the work of the officers has already been felt, and a substantial increase has taken place in the business done. We have ample accommodation for future growth.

All the offices not required by the Bank, namely, the basement and the three upper floors, have, with the exception of seven or eight rooms, been leased to tenants of the highest class. We are already assured as to the judicious nature of the investment.

It gives the Directors pleasure again to express their satisfaction regarding the fidelity and efficiency with which the officers of the Bank have performed their respective duties.

HENRY W. DARLING,

President.

In moving the adoption of the Report the President said :

I do not propose to delay you at all with any general remarks upon the management of the Bank during the year, as the General Manager has some information to lay before you. There is one matter, however, which might properly have found a place in the Report, namely—that we had the misfortune to lose during the year one of our Directors in the person of Mr. William Gooderham. During the time he was associated with us we had learned to esteem him very highly for his personal character and for the devotion which he gave to the duties assigned to him here. In accordance with the by-laws of the Bank, Mr. Hoskin was elected to fill his place at the Board until the Annual Meeting. Apart from this the statement is quite full and comprehensive as to the business

of the Bank and the results of the operations for the past year, and before moving its adoption I will ask the General Manager to make any remarks he may have prepared.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

The General Manager then spoke as follows :

The Directors in their Report have doubtless said all that it is necessary to say regarding the results of the year, and I will, as usual, confine my remarks mainly to other matters of interest in connection with the Bank. I may be permitted, however, to draw your attention to the fact that the percentage of our net profits compared to Capital and Rest is as high as that of any of the banks in Canada, having a capital approximately as large as our own. Our deposits during the year have substantially increased, and it is a satisfaction to be able to say that this result has been obtained despite the fact that we refuse to compete with banks paying high rates for money.

Since the present administration assumed charge several branches have been opened, but these are all, with one exception, in localities where the Bank already has interests to protect and advance. While we may at any time enter into new fields, we are at the moment chiefly engaged in taking care of the very large business already enjoyed by the Bank. I alluded a year ago to the number of Shareholders upon our books, a number larger than in any previous year. A reference to the list before you will show that there is again a very considerable addition, a matter, as you will understand, of great satisfaction to the Directors and myself.

#### CROPS.

The hopes entertained a year ago regarding the crops in Ontario were unfortunately not realized, and our farmers have been obliged to submit to meagre returns for their labour for two or three years in succession. It is, however, a matter for congratulation that the diversified nature of





MOOSEJAW, SASK.  
Under construction



farming in this province has sufficiently sustained the general prosperity of the farmer to avert the trouble which a failure of the grain crops would have caused ten or fifteen years ago. But if the returns from cereals have been bad, farmers have done fairly well with their cattle, and we have again an increase in the amount of cheese manufactured and the money return therefrom, the product of the year ending 31st March being nearly 93,000,000 pounds, valued at \$9,250,000. The export of eggs from the province reached ten million dozen, the price to the farmer averaging about 11½ cents. This is lower than the price for 1887 and 1888, but speculation on the part of dealers during these years advanced prices beyond what the U.S. market ultimately justified. It will be unfortunate if another market has to be found, as no product of the farm has maintained its value more steadily during the period of general decline in prices. The profit from raising hogs, which is yearly becoming a more important feature with our farmers, has been particularly satisfactory.

Whatever the outcome of the present season may be, the prospect of success is always pleasant, and the crop reports of the North-West and of Ontario are at the moment quite satisfactory. The hay crop again promises to be very large, and we may hope for a still further increase in the manufacture of cheese; a greater number of hogs will be raised than heretofore; experiments looking to the production of barley suited to the English market, already successful in some parts of Canada, will be still further pursued, so that, whatever may be the results of unfavourable seasons or a hostile tariff, our farmers will doubtless prove equal to the occasion.

#### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

I have little to add to my remarks a year ago regarding the manufacture of agricultural implements. We have had another season in which the production exceeded previous years, the sales, however, keeping pace with the production. The wisdom of steadily increasing the output as long as sales

are maintained depends, of course, on the continuance of satisfactory payments by the farmers. In the North-West payments have been unsatisfactory. In Ontario they have been well maintained, perhaps not quite as high a percentage as in the best of recent years, but high enough to afford gratifying evidence as to the paying power of our farmers under quite unfavourable conditions. Clearly much depends on the present crop, but whether it be bountiful or not, it will be well if the production of implements is checked for the moment. The foreign trade is growing to large figures, and must eventually have an important bearing on the prosperity of this great branch of business in Ontario.

#### THE LUMBER TRADE.

The winter operations in connection with the timber and lumber trade have been carried on without undue cost, but under the disadvantage of unsteady weather and considerable illness among the men in the woods from the prevailing epidemic. As a whole, logs must have cost somewhat more than in ordinary years. There has been no difficulty in driving, and the mills will be plentifully supplied. In fact, notwithstanding the curtailment in production last winter, we must hope there will also be a reduction next winter, as it is clear that in many respects the market is not what it has been the past few years. The market in the United States is fairly satisfactory, but the fears expressed a year ago regarding the South American market have been realized, and what with strikes and a smaller volume of building operations at home, prices are barely sustained and sales are not so easily made as could be desired. In this connection it is a satisfaction to notice that the production of pine saw-logs in the Ottawa district for 1889-90 (including a smaller stock carried over than usual) is slightly below the average of nine years past. The cut in other localities is also considerably reduced as compared with that of two years ago, so that the trade in lumber is still in a healthy condition, if not so positively prosperous as heretofore. We are not interested to

any extent in the square timber trade and have no special knowledge concerning it, but it seems clear that, tempted by the high prices of late years, manufacturers have overproduced, the output in the Ottawa district being 60 to 70 per cent. higher than the average of the last nine years.

#### GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANKS.

Since our remarks a year ago regarding the rate paid for money deposited in the Post Office and Government Savings Banks, we are glad to state that a slight movement in the right direction has been made, the rate having been reduced from 4 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. last autumn. The general opinion had obtained that when any action was taken in the matter the rate would be reduced to 3 per cent., and we will hope that this may still be brought about in the near future.

#### THE NEW BANKING ACT.

During the year the new Banking Act, in connection with which our charters are renewed, was passed. Owing to the fact that bank charters are renewed for periods of ten years, while the charters of other corporations are as a rule indefinite, we appear to be condemned for at least one parliamentary session in each ten years to fight for our existence. In a country where the conditions subject to which banking profits are made are less favourable than in any other progressive country in the world, the desire of many individuals in the community seems to be to make the banking laws as complicated and difficult as possible, while mere jealousy of the few privileges enjoyed by banks, which privileges are made instruments for the welfare of the country, causes them to desire to overthrow principles in our system the loss of which would be far more hurtful to the public than to the banks. There was at one time considerable fear that one of the main principles of the Act would be departed from and the business interests of the country submitted to the dangers incident to a change in the form of currency. The members of the Government, however, have instead wisely concluded

to make as much more perfect as possible the laws under which we have worked the business of banking and supplied a currency to the Dominion for the past twenty years.

The United States National Banking System, although much less perfect as a banking system than our own, provides a currency at no time exactly in accordance with the needs of the country as ours is, and at present entirely inadequate, but having the quality of passing over the whole area of the country, without discount for geographical reasons or on account of the standing of the bank issuing it. Section 55 of our new Act provides against discount on bank notes for geographical reasons by requiring every bank in the Dominion to arrange at the commercial centre of each province for the redemption of its notes: and Section 54 provides against the possibility of the notes of a suspended bank falling to a discount between the moment of suspension and the date of payment by the liquidator. This will be accomplished by the creation of an insurance fund, the liability of each bank to which, while greater than there is necessity for, is not really a serious matter at all, and if our experience is not worse than it has been for twenty years past will never cost us any loss of money. In this manner the bank-note issues of Canada have been given the one good quality of the United States National bank-notes without incorporating into our Act any of the objectional features of that system. This is a matter for much more congratulation than people realize who have not leisure in which to study the problems of banking.

Perhaps the change in the conditions under which banks may hereafter be created is as important as anything in the new Act. It is necessary on the one hand that banking in Canada shall not partake in any sense of the nature of monopoly, but it is equally as necessary that banks shall not be created by men who have motives for doing so other than the proper motive of embarking in a business enterprise because they believe it will pay. It is well known that banks

have been created at a time when the business was suffering from severe competition, a force calculated to do more mischief in banking than in any other kind of business. Perhaps some politician had a charter to dispose of and an ambitious bank officer was anxious to try his hand at general management, and friends could be found willing to permit their names to be used as provisional directors, or to subscribe for stock on the understanding that they would sell the stock shortly after the bank was in operation.

In the present Act there is nothing to deter any body of men who wish to start a bank for bona fide purposes from doing so, but every effort is made to prevent the creation of a bank which is not supported by a fairly large actual cash capital, and a body of shareholders who believe that the bank in question is necessary to the wants of the community, and will therefore be a profitable enterprise.

The motion for the adoption of the Report was then briefly seconded by Mr. George A. Cox and carried.

It was moved by Mr. Edward Martin, Q.C., seconded by Mr. A. V. Delaporte and carried, that the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Mr. Darling returned thanks in a few words for the Directors and himself, remarking that the Board had devoted much time and attention to the business of the Bank during the year.

Moved by Mr. George Robinson, seconded by Mr. Hugh Ryan, that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager, and other officers of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Mr. Walker, in acknowledging the vote of thanks on behalf of himself and the officers, said: We have now a very large staff indeed, upwards of 300 men in fact, and I think I

may say that in the matter of zeal and determination to do all that they can to advance the Bank's interests our staff is second to none in Canada.

Mr. Plummer also thanked the meeting, and assured those present that the officers always appreciate these resolutions and would miss them if they were omitted. "Success in the business of banking is peculiarly dependent on the good will, the zeal and energy of the staff. The business could not be built up, or maintained, or carried on safely if the men did their work in a perfunctory or mechanical manner, and in respect to these matters we have a staff which deserves all that the Board and the Shareholders have said."

Moved by Mr. John Scott, and seconded by Dr. J. Ogden, that the meeting do now proceed to elect Directors for the coming year, and that for this purpose the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until three o'clock this day, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered. The result of the election to be reported by the scrutineers to the General Manager.

Before putting the resolution Mr. Darling spoke as follows :—

Before leaving the chair which I have had the honour of occupying for the past four years, perhaps I may be permitted to say a few words upon a subject personal to myself.

You are aware I was invited to occupy the position of President in 1886 by the founder of the Bank, the late Hon. William McMaster, at an important juncture in its history, when I might very well have shrunk from assuming the responsible duties which were entirely new to me, all the more that my engagements were already onerous.

Having reduced these to the narrowest limits possible, and strong in the confidence reposed in me by the Shareholders, the public and my fellow-citizens, I addressed myself to the task assigned to me, with the single aim of bringing the institution to the highest state of efficiency as to its manage-



ment, so that it might enjoy such a measure of public confidence as would enable it to minister to the commercial requirements of the country with profit to the Shareholders.

In this I have been cordially supported by the gentlemen who from time to time have been associated with me as my co-Directors, and the zeal and ability shown by the Managers and the staff have been frequently and appreciatively alluded to.

The period covered by my incumbency of office has been marked by events which have given special prominence to the duties and responsibilities of Directors of banks and other monetary institutions by the pronounced success of some and the lack of success in others. I think it may be truthfully said of this Bank that through the attainments of the past four years it occupies to-day a position of stability and prosperity which ought to be highly satisfactory to the Shareholders.

It will always be a matter of grateful recollection to me that so much has been accomplished during my term of office, and that in the performance of the responsible duties of President I have been able to contribute in some degree to the success that has been achieved.

I do not propose here to enter into the causes which now prevent my enjoyment of the fruit of much anxious thought and unselfish devotion to your interests; I am led to surrender to you the trust committed to me because my retirement seems at the moment the way in which I can best serve the Shareholders, as I have sought to do throughout.

I shall watch with undiminished concern the further history of the Bank, and I shall esteem it a privilege to promote its prosperity in every way in my power.

The Rev. Principal King made some complimentary remarks respecting the retiring President, and the motion being put was carried.

It was then moved that Mr. Darling should leave the chair and that the Vice-President should act as Chairman.

This being carried Mr. W. B. Hamilton addressed the meeting as follows:

I have a resolution to submit for your consideration which will, I apprehend, meet with the cordial approval of the meeting. Many of the Shareholders will have learned with regret that the President has intimated his intention retiring from the Directorate. The valuable services which he has rendered, and the untiring zeal and energy with which he has devoted himself to the interests of the Bank during the last four years have, in the unanimous opinion of the retiring Board, entitled him not only to a cordial vote of thanks, but to a substantial and tangible recognition of these services, and I have therefore much pleasure in submitting the following resolution, which Mr. Taylor will second:

"That on the occasion of the retirement of Mr. H. W. Darling from the Board, and in recognition of his past services as President of the Bank, the General Manager be instructed to pay him the sum of ten thousand dollars."

Mr. George Taylor seconded the resolution and it was carried unanimously.

The meeting then adjourned.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected Directors for the ensuing year: George A. Cox, James Crathern, John I. Davidson, W. B. Hamilton, John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., Robert Kilgour, Matthew Leggat, George Taylor.

At a meeting of the newly-elected Board of Directors held subsequently, George A. Cox, Esq., was elected President, and John I. Davidson, Esq., Vice-President.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

OFFICE TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL PAID-UP	- - - - -	\$6,000,000
REST	- - - - -	\$ 900,000

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## DIRECTORS

GEORGE A. COX, ESQ.,	PRESIDENT.
JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.,	VICE-PRESIDENT.
AMES CRATHERN, ESQ.	WM. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.	MATTHEW LEGGAT, ESQ.
JOHN HOSKIN, ESQ., Q.C., LL.D.	ROBERT KILGOUR, ESQ.

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B. E. WALKER, General Manager.	
J. H. PLUMMER, Asst. General Manager.	
A. H. IRELAND, Inspector.	G. de C. O'GRADY, Asst. Inspector.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL ..... A. M. CROMBIE ..... Manager.

### ONTARIO—

AYR .....	JOHN WYLLIE .....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	H. H. MORRIS .....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE .....	C. M. STORK .....	"
BERLIN .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
BLENHEIM .....	R. C. MACPHERSON .....	"
BRANTFORD .....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
CAYUGA .....	W. C. T. MORSON .....	"
CHATHAM .....	J. E. THOMAS .....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	JAS. BRYDON .....	"
DUNDAS .....	F. W. HOLMESTED .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	R. G. W. CONOLLY .....	"
GALT .....	T. A. STEPHEN .....	"
GODERICH .....	R. S. WILLIAMS .....	"
GUELPH .....	B. R. MCCONKEY .....	"
HAMILTON .....	WM. ROBERTS .....	"
JARVIS .....	W. C. T. MORSON .....	"
LONDON .....	H. A. NICHOLSON .....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	W. W. RUTHVEN .....	"
OTTAWA .....	ROBERT GILL .....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. JENNINGS .....	"
PARKHILL .....	J. M. DUFF .....	"
PETERBORO .....	WM. MANSON .....	"
ST. CATHARINES .....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET .....	"
SAULT STE. MARIE .....	D. MCGREGOR .....	"
SEAFORTH .....	M. MORRIS .....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	W. MAYNARD, JR. ....	"
STRATHROY .....	L. H. DAMPIER .....	"
THOROLD .....	W. J. ROBERTSON .....	"
TORONTO (Chief Office) ..	{ JOHN C. KEMP .....	"
	{ JOHN AIRD .....	Asst. Mgr.
798 QUEEN STREET EAST ..	A. BRADLEY .....	Manager.
448 YONGE, COR. COLLEGE ..	T. S. HARRISON .....	"
791 YONGE ST. ....	R. J. MONTGOMERY .....	"
268 COLLEGE, COR. SPADINA ..	R. C. MCHARRIE .....	"
544 QUEEN ST. WEST. ....	G. A. HOLLAND .....	"
415 PARLIAMENT ST. ....	V. E. HART .....	"

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES—Continued.

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WALKERTON .....	G. W. MCKEE.....	Manager.
WALKERVILLE.....	{ H. B. WALKER.....	"
	{ F. C. G. MINTY.....	Sub-Mgr.
WATERLOO.....	H. J. GRASETT .....	Manager.
WINDSOR .....	H. B. WALKER.....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	D. H. CHARLES .....	"
UNITED STATES—		
NEW YORK .....	{ ALEX. LAIRD.....	} Agents.
	{ WM. GRAY.....	

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## BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

### GREAT BRITAIN—

The Bank of Scotland.

### INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN—

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

### AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND—

The Union Bank of Australia, Limited.

### PARIS, FRANCE—

Messrs. Lazard Frères & Cie.

### BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—

Messrs. J. Matthieu & Fils.

### NEW YORK—

The American Exchange National Bank of New York.

### SAN FRANCISCO—

The Bank of British Columbia.

### CHICAGO—

The American Exchange National Bank of Chicago.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA—

The Bank of British Columbia.

### HAMILTON, BERMUDA—

The Bank of Bermuda.

### KINGSTON, JAMAICA—

The Bank of Nova Scotia.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

30TH MAY, 1891.

## LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 2,525,065 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	\$ 2,851,451 16
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date .....	12,319,977 96
Balances due to other Banks in Canada.....	15,171,429 12
Balances due to Foreign Correspondents.....	4,177 70
Balances due to Agents in Great Britain.....	12,582 09
Unclaimed Dividends .....	514,685 22
Dividend No. 48, payable 1st June .....	331 94
	210,000 00
Capital paid up.....	\$18,438,271 07
Rest.....	\$6,000,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward .....	900,000 00
	22,406 54
	6,922,406 54
	<u>\$25,360,677 61</u>

## ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 413,305 38
Dominion Notes .....	718,305 65
	\$ 1,131,611 03
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	703,768 53
Balances due by other Banks in Canada .....	128,742 91
Balances due by Agents of the Bank in the United States..	834,478 54
British and Canadian Government Securities, Municipal and other Stocks and Bonds .....	1,371,157 04
Call and Short Loans on Stocks and Bonds.....	1,294,962 48
	\$5,464,720 53
Time Loans on Stocks and Bonds .....	1,336,487 30
Other Current Loans and Discounts.....	17,508,511 7
Bills Discounted Overdue, not specially secured (loss fully provided for) .....	59,395 69
Overdue Debts, secured.....	54,851 00
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises) .....	12,561 12
Mortgages.....	221,961 63
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	641,843 25
Other Assets.....	60,345 32
	<u>\$25,360,677 61</u>

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

## THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TUESDAY, 16TH JUNE, 1891.

---

The twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was held at the Head Office of the Bank on Tuesday, 16th June, 1891, at 12 o'clock. There was a fair attendance of Shareholders, amongst those present being: Messrs. Geo. A. Cox, John I. Davidson, Matthew Leggat, Hamilton; W. B. Hamilton, George Taylor, Robt. Kilgour, A. G. Ramsay, Hamilton; James Crathern, Montreal; Walter S. Lee, Henry Beatty, Hon. A. M. Ross, Edward Martin, Q.C., Hamilton; A. V. Delaporte, Samuel Nordheimer, Hugh Scott, John Scott, Joseph Keterson, Edward Mitchell, Hamilton; J. B. Folingsby, George Robinson, D. E. Miller, Thorold; John Nicol, J. K. Niven, F. C. Taylor, Lindsay; W. Walmsley, James Campbell, Robert McCleary, Henry Pellatt, James Browne, George T. Alexander.

On motion, the President, Mr. Geo. A. Cox, was elected Chairman of the meeting, and Mr. J. H. Plummer, the Assistant General Manager, was appointed to act as Secretary.

It was moved by Mr. W. B. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. John I. Davidson, that Messrs. Philip Browne, Henry Pellatt, and George T. Alexander act as scrutineers.

The President called upon the Secretary to read the Annual Report of the Directors as follows:—

### REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the twenty-fourth Annual Report, covering the year ending 30th May, 1891, together with the usual Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, brought forward from last year is.....	\$ 37,974 68
The net profits for the year ending 30th May, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amounted to.....	514,431 86
	<u>\$552,406 54</u>

Which has been appropriated as follows:

Dividends Nos. 47 and 48 at Seven per cent. per annum .....	\$420,000 00
Vote of Shareholders to retiring President, 17th June, 1890. ....	10,000 00
Transferred to Rest Account.....	100,000 00
Balance carried forward.....	22,406 54
	<u>\$552,406 54</u>

It will be observed that the net earnings for the year, together with the balance carried forward from last year, amount to \$552,406.54, out of which, after making the usual full provision for all bad and doubtful debts and assets, we have paid the customary dividend of 7 per cent., and the amount voted to the retiring President by the Shareholders at the last Annual Meeting, and have transferred to Rest Account \$100,000, carrying forward at credit of Profit and Loss Account \$22,406.54. It is hoped that these results will be satisfactory to the Shareholders.

Your Directors have pleasure in stating that they have succeeded in converting the perpetual lease of the ground



occupied by the Head Office premises into a rent charge limited to a term of years. The ground was acquired by the Bank under a lease renewable at a valuation every twenty-one years, and under the new arrangement, by payment of an increased annual sum of moderate amount, the Bank will become the absolute owner of the property at the expiration of the first term of our original lease, that is in a little more than sixteen years from this date.

The usual thorough revaluation of the entire assets of the Bank, and the fullest provision for every item about which there is an element of doubt, have been made. All the branches, agencies, and departments of the Bank have been inspected during the year.

A branch of the Bank has been opened during the year at Walkerville, Ontario. In Toronto, branches have been opened in Queen Street West and Parliament Street.

It gives the Directors pleasure again to express their satisfaction regarding the fidelity and efficiency with which the officers of the Bank have performed their respective duties.

GEO. A. COX,  
President.

The Report having been read, the President said :—

The statement of assets and liabilities submitted shows you clearly and concisely the position of your property as at the 30th ultimo, and the profit and loss account the result of the operations for the year ending on that date. It is not necessary, therefore, that I should detain you with any lengthened remarks. In asking for your approval and adoption of the Report, I need not tell you that the year under review, like other years, supplied its full quota of business reverses ; nor need I add that this Bank, like other institutions, had to bear its fair share of these losses. I am glad, however, to be able to assure you that the profits arising from the business of the year have been so satisfactory as to enable your Directors, after fully and effectually providing for these

losses, and paying the usual dividend, to still further strengthen by \$100,000 the protecting wall that they are slowly, but securely, building up around your capital.

If I should venture to offer any predictions as to the probable results of the year upon which we are just entering, I should no doubt see in the adverse legislation of our American neighbours, the somewhat disappointing outlook for the coming harvest, long credits, or some other cause, sufficient to warrant me in joining with many others to raise the signal of caution. I do not wish to under-estimate the value of such advice as will lead at all times to the utmost precaution in giving or accepting credit, and to the utmost care and economy in every department of business; but there is another side to the picture, and I do not think it will do us any harm to look for a few minutes at that side.

If we go back for the brief period of fifteen years in the history of our country, and look at the financial articles and the reports of financial institutions of that date, we would see the same admonitions of caution and the same evidence of alarm and anxiety that we see to-day, and that makes the following comparative figures for that date and the present interesting at this time.

There has been an increase in the value of property covered by fire insurance in the 15 years from \$364,000,000 to \$707,000,000. In the same time the deposits of our people in chartered and savings banks, loan companies, and Government savings banks, have grown from less than \$85,000,000 to over \$200,000,000. The amount of premiums received by the life insurance companies doing business in Canada in 1875 was \$2,800,000; last year it was \$8,100,000. The total amount received for premiums from 1875 to 1890 was \$69,000,000, and the amount of the policies in force increased during that period from \$85,000,000 to \$248,000,000. Our railroads have more than doubled in mileage, traffic, and capital in the same time. The population of this city has grown in 15 years from 70,000 to 200,000, and the assessment from less than \$50,000,000 to nearly \$150,000,000.



NANAIMO. B. C



These are unmistakeable evidences of prosperity which any one can understand, and there can be no reasonable doubt that in the next 15 years we shall experience a much greater increase. The study of these figures should give us increased confidence in the resources of our country, and enable us to take a more hopeful view of the future ; they will not, I trust, make us less cautious in dealing with the immediate present, or less on the alert for the dangers ever present in the innumerable business ventures represented by the loans of a bank.

I have now to move, seconded by Mr. Davidson, the Vice-President, that the Report of the Directors as read, be adopted and printed for the information of the Shareholders. Before putting the resolution, I will ask the General Manager to address you, after which he will, I am sure, be very pleased to answer any questions that you may desire to ask him.

The General Manager then spoke as follows :—

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

The Directors have again presented to you a Report exhibiting a steady prosperity, and although the profits resulting from the year's business are moderate, they will, we have no doubt, be satisfactory to the Shareholders. We have pleasure in again drawing attention to the increase in our deposits, which have now reached the handsome figure of fifteen millions. A part of the increase is doubtless temporary, but the gain in deposits of a permanent character during the last five years is in the neighbourhood of five million dollars. This has been accomplished without the offer at any time of higher rates than those paid by other banks in the first grade of credit. That the average cost of interest-bearing deposits in Canada is at present too high, owing to the excessive competition, is unfortunately true, and we can but hope that before long there will be some improvement. Money is cheaper to the borrower here than elsewhere in the British Empire, except Great Britain, and cheaper than in the United States, except in the large cities

where uninvested capital accumulates. Our profits are therefore curtailed at both ends. During the past year at least two United States journals have commented on the practice among Canadian banks of paying interest on deposits, the impression apparently being that ordinary deposits of business firms are sometimes obtained in this manner. I need not say that no bank in good credit will pay interest on the fluctuating deposits of a merchant. Our interest-bearing deposits come from deposit receipts and our savings bank departments, and represent capital from petty savings upwards, invested with us either directly for the income afforded by the interest, or in order to earn some interest until by mortgages or otherwise a larger income can be obtained. Sound banking, as we understand it and as it is understood in Great Britain, is inseparable from the accumulation, as far as possible, of every dollar of the savings and capital of the community not otherwise invested. Individual banks in great cities may obtain all the deposits they desire without paying interest to any extent. We would astonish the Shareholders with our profits if we could do the same, but we are, in the main, country bankers, and it is a large part of our business to enable the depositor living near any of our country branches to put the money he may get for the farm products he has sold, or for his labour, into a bank for savings, so that he may earn interest and his capital may be utilized.

#### THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

You all know that during the past year we have witnessed events more momentous than any in the history of banking heretofore. It is not my purpose to dwell upon the errors culminating in the fall of a banking house which in the early part of this century was classed by a witty statesman along with the five leading nations as the sixth great power in the world. The wealth of the world and the power to do business have been so enormously increased by steam, electricity and credit, that the operations of nations run as easily now into

hundreds of millions as they did a century ago into tens. The failure of Baring Brothers was the result of unduly straining one of these great forces, and we have more occasion to consider this lesson than to regret that their error brought its natural punishment. After all, they as bankers, and the Argentine as manufacturers of securities, were only the chief among many sinners. Other bankers, and other countries than the South American republics, have been transgressing. The interdependence of the various countries of the world is now so great that we in Canada have heard with grave doubts as to the effect upon ourselves of Russia's attempts to create a gold stock, and the consequent struggle for gold among the leading nations, not yet ended; of the financial collapse of Portugal; of municipal extravagance at Rome; of the dangers so eagerly courted by the silver advocates in the United States, and many other foreign matters which are a menace to our financial ease.

Whether we contribute to the strain on the money markets of the world or not, we may be made to suffer by what others do; but I quite agree with the General Manager of the Bank of Montreal, that we have already done, and are still doing, our little part towards that overloading of the London market which may yet bring about consequences worse than anything we have ever imagined. During the past year we have advised more than one municipality to curtail its issues, and to bear in mind that ample assets and ability to pay are not the only measures of credit—we must also have the desire and ability of the investing world to purchase securities. Common sense points to the wisdom of avoiding all extensive public improvements for a year or two and in the matter of frontage improvements, which are so largely adding to the already heavy debts of some of our cities, we should follow the practice of many rapidly growing cities in the Western States, and levy the cost of such improvements in two or three assessments, the warrants or debentures for which would be readily carried at home.

## THE BANK'S FOREIGN BUSINESS.

Our Shareholders, however, are mainly interested in the bearing of the financial situation upon our foreign business, and I am glad to say that, so far, we have at least not suffered from it. Our business at New York, now second in importance to that of no Canadian bank having an agency there, has been conducted without loss, direct or indirect, arising from the panic, although we are not vain enough to suppose that, should matters assume a more serious aspect, we can hope to continue with such a record. Our high position among bill-drawers and issuers of commercial credits, has brought us most welcome accessions of business, and the volume of our transactions is now, in many directions, only limited by our very great caution in extending lines of credit. Never in the history of our foreign business has greater care been necessary. Having no branch in London, England, our bills are drawn upon an independent bank; a bank, as it happens, not only in the first rank, but established at the same time as the Bank of England. In our commercial credit business we have been careful to have as correspondents only banks whose contracts are regarded as absolutely undoubted in the particular countries where drafts under our credits are drawn. When it is considered that in addition to our own high credit, we thus offer the second name of banks of such standing, it is perhaps not surprising that our New York agents were able, in the excitement of a panic, intensified by the timidity of the London discount market, not only to conduct our ordinary affairs without interruption or friction, but to secure valuable business which had hitherto gone in other channels.

## TRADE AND CROPS.

Turning to Canada, and especially Ontario, if we were to repeat the opinion of farmers and business men, we would have to report another unsatisfactory harvest, and another year of trade in which the profits were quite too small and the bad debts excessive. There is unfortunately no doubt that



the bad debts arising from the failure of shopkeepers and wholesale merchants have been excessive, but do we not commit a grave error in repeatedly deploring the condition of trade and farming, and in waiting for years of plenty, and the return of old fashioned profits? While we wait do we apply the remedies of economy in expenditure and rigid scrutiny in granting credits? Is it not better to conclude that the present is the normal condition of things, that the harvests are not likely to improve on the average, and profits not likely to be larger? If we faced this condition to-day we would simply live within the conditions and so prosper. I do not address this advice to those prudent people who always live within safe limits, or to the many who are making quite as large profits as they could wish. I offer the advice to those who argue that the poor harvests and lean profits are reasons which alone justify shrinkage in their balance sheets. We can all prosper even though the harvests are no better than those of the last three or four years, if mercantile business is not so persistently overdone, long credit and credit without adequate security so persistently given, and expenses maintained on a level no longer warranted by the condition of things. I am sure that if the superfluous shopkeepers and shopkeepers' assistants could be turned into farmers, there would be nothing whatever the matter with Ontario, providing, of course, they became industrious and intelligent farmers. Every year the pressure of competition is greater, more people wish to obtain a share of the profits of the community in some other manner than by wages, and consequently success is more difficult. But under the severest conditions those succeed who exercise the most intelligence, industry, economy, and command of capital, and with these qualifications, as much can be done by farmers and business men here as anywhere.

During the past year the Ontario farmers paid their implement notes and interest and mortgage instalments quite as promptly as in former years, in many districts much better

than for several seasons. They bought less at the stores, and there are many indications that they find it necessary to economize and are economizing, but a few years of economy throughout the province, in town or country, would be almost equal to an extra crop. The output of cheese was the largest in the history of this great industry, the export for the year ending 31st March being 108,150,000 pounds, valued at \$9,700,000, a gain of nearly half a million dollars on the previous year. The export from the United States during this period fell off to a greater extent than the gain made by Canada. We have already suffered from want of rain to such an extent that it is hardly possible for us to maintain as high figures this season. The trade in both distillery and grass-fed cattle has been very satisfactory, and winter-fed cattle are now being shipped in fine condition. Regarding eggs, whether we eventually, as I think we will, establish a satisfactory market in England or not, down to date no one has suffered by the McKinley Bill but the consumer of eggs in the Eastern States. Our trade in low-priced horses has suffered, but with the probable early conversion of horse cars to electricity in view, our farmers must in any event endeavour to raise high class animals hereafter. For these the demand is as great as ever. When we come to wheat and barley the record is not so encouraging. That we can grow barley fine enough and of such varieties as will command a market either in the United States or in Great Britain, there is no doubt, but in reaching the high standard there may be years of disappointment and loss.

#### THE LUMBER TRADE.

The trade in square timber, in which, as I said a year ago, we have little or no interest, is not yet in a healthy condition. There is still in sight more timber than the total product of any year since 1881, although the amount made in the past year is only about one-fifth of that for 1889-90. It is therefore to be hoped that next winter the quantity manufactured will be as nearly nothing as may be possible.

The work in the woods has been done under favourable circumstances and the output is correspondingly cheaper than in recent years; part of the reduction in cost, however, is unfortunately the result of lower wages. Since the maximum cut of sawlogs in the Ottawa district, in 1887-8, the stock on hand has been steadily falling, we are glad to notice, and is now lower than in any but two of the last ten years. The demand in the United States is satisfactory, at prices higher than a year ago, but the South American market is still wanting. As we have said in past years, a diminished production is all that is necessary to give the lumber business a quite satisfactory tone, and at the moment the Ottawa manufacturers have fair profits in prospect. The output in the North Shore District is also smaller, but the general conditions of the business are not as favourable as could be desired. The home market, on which they largely depend, is very limited, owing to the collapse in real estate speculation and the general shrinkage in business.

In concluding my remarks, permit me to say that during the coming year, while there can be no certainty as to crops or trade, there is no reasonable doubt as to our wisest course. The harvest prospects in the North-West are good, I understand, but the want of rain has done so much damage in Ontario and Quebec, that we have at least no excuse for anything but caution. Clearly we should import as lightly as possible, manufacture well within the limits of previous years, cut down expenses, and extend credit with regard only to the buyer's ability to pay under adverse conditions of business. If we do this we will doubtless be able to endure the result a year from now whatever it may be.

The motion for the adoption of the Report was then put and carried.

Mr. Lee :—After hearing the remarks of yourself and Mr. Walker on the Report, and having these excellent figures before us, I think I may say that the resolution I am about to propose will be received and passed unanimously. I have

much pleasure in moving that the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President, and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Geo. Robinson, and on being put to the meeting was carried.

Mr. Cox, in returning thanks for the Directors and himself, spoke as follows:—On behalf of my colleagues and myself I can assure you that this resolution is much appreciated. I can also assure you that your Directors have the interests of the institution at heart, and are giving it their unceasing and best attention. Supported as we are by the executive, we feel that everything that can be done is being done to further the interests of the Bank. We are gratified to know that this is appreciated, and thank you for the resolution.

Moved by Mr. A. V. Delaporte, seconded by Mr. John Scott, that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager and other officers of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Mr. Cox:—Before submitting the resolution I wish to say that I think the Shareholders are singularly fortunate in having the services of the gentlemen now occupying the positions of General Manager and Assistant General Manager. Their watchful solicitude, untiring energy and marked ability in the management of the Bank is the explanation of the successful and prosperous position which it occupies to-day. The loyal and efficient staff has also contributed in a wonderful degree to the success that we are now congratulating ourselves upon. I have very much pleasure in submitting this resolution, and I know that my colleagues on the Board will endorse every word I say as to the efficiency of the executive and the loyalty of the staff generally. The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr. Walker :—I have to thank the Shareholders on behalf of myself and the staff, for this expression of confidence. The business of banking is as difficult to carry on successfully in Canada as any other branch of trade. Our officers, one and all, know that their advancement depends upon rigid performance of duty and untiring energy, and I think I can say that as fine a spirit of zeal for the Bank exists as the Shareholders could desire. We have to-day a staff of 321 officers, and with 44 branches to overlook, the Shareholders will readily understand that the cares of the executive do not grow less from year to year.

Mr. Plummer :—As one of those named in the resolution I also desire to return my thanks therefor. The times, as Mr. Walker has said, are not propitious for making much money, but we are doing our best, and I hope the Shareholders will always be able to feel that we are entitled to their cordial thanks. We very much appreciate, and I am sure the staff as a whole will also much appreciate, the President's remarks in putting the resolution. The Board are the best judges whether or not we deserve thanks, and his kind words therefore add to the value of the Shareholders' vote.

Moved by Mr. Robert Kilgour, seconded by Mr. M. Leggat, and carried, that the meeting do now proceed to elect Directors for the coming year, and that for this purpose the ballot box be now opened and remain open until three o'clock this day, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered; the result of the election to be reported by the scrutineers to the General Manager. The meeting then adjourned.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected as Directors for the ensuing year : Messrs. Geo. A. Cox, James Crathern, John I. Davidson, William B. Hamilton, John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., Robert Kilgour, Matthew Leggat and George Taylor.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held subsequently, Geo. A. Cox, Esq., was re-elected President, and John I. Davidson, Esq., Vice-President.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,000,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

GEORGE A. COX, ESQ.,	-	-	PRESIDENT
JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.,	-	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.			WM. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.
GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.			MATTHEW LEGGAT, ESQ.
JOHN HOSKIN, ESQ., Q.C., LL.D.			ROBERT KILGOUR, ESQ.

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B. E. WALKER, General Manager.	
J. H. PLUMMER, Asst. General Manager.	
A. H. IRELAND, Inspector.	G. de C. O'GRADY, Asst. Inspector.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

QUEBEC—

MONTREAL (Chief Office)...A. M. CROMBIE.....Manager.  
2034 NOTRE DAME ST. ....W. W. RUTHVEN..... "  
276 ST. LAWRENCE ST....J. G. PYKE ..... "

ONTARIO—

AILSA CRAIG.....	T. A. STEPHEN.....	Manager.
AYR.....	JOHN WYLLIE.....	Agent.
BARRIE.....	H. H. MORRIS.....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE.....	C. M. STORK.....	"
BERLIN.....	W. C. J. KING.....	"
BLENHEIM.....	R. C. MACPHERSON.....	"
BRANTFORD.....	JEFFERY HALE.....	"
CAYUGA.....	W. C. T. MORSON.....	"
CHATHAM.....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
COLLINGWOOD.....	JAS. BRYDON.....	"
DUNDAS.....	F. W. HOLMESTED.....	"
DUNNVILLE.....	R. G. W. CONOLLY.....	"
GALT.....	J. M. DUFF.....	"
GODERICH.....	R. S. WILLIAMS.....	"
GUELPH.....	B. R. MCCONKEY.....	"
HAMILTON.....	WM. ROBERTS.....	"
JARVIS.....	W. C. T. MORSON.....	"
LONDON.....	D. B. DEWAR.....	"
ORANGEVILLE.....	H. T. WILLS.....	"
OTTAWA.....	ROBERT GILL.....	"
PARIS.....	R. C. JENNINGS.....	"
PARKHILL.....	T. A. STEPHEN.....	"
PETERBORO.....	WM. MANSON.....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	F. O. CROSS.....	"
SARNIA.....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SAULT STE. MARIE.....	D. MCGREGOR.....	"
SEAFORTH.....	M. MORRIS.....	"
SIMCOE.....	E. COWDRY.....	"
STRATFORD.....	W. MAYNARD, JR.....	"
STRATHROY.....	L. H. DAMPIER.....	"
THOROLD.....	G. M. WEDD.....	"
TORONTO (Chief Office) ...	JOHN C. KEMP.....	"
268 COLLEGE, COR. SPADINA G. A. HOLLAND.....	Asst. Mgr.	
128 KING ST. EAST.....	R. C. MCHARRIE.....	Manager.
415 PARLIAMENT ST.....	V. E. HART.....	"
712 QUEEN ST. EAST.....	A. BRADLEY.....	"



## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES—Continued.

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544 QUEEN ST. WEST .....	H. C. SECORD.....	Manager.
448 YONGE, COR. COLLEGE.	T. S. HARRISON .....	"
791 YONGE ST. ....	R. J. MONTGOMERY....	"
WALKERTON .....	G. W. MCKEE .....	"
WALKERVILLE.....	{ H. B. WALKER .....	"
	{ F. C. G. MINTY .....	Sub Mgr.
WATERLOO.....	H. J. GRASETT .....	Manager.
WINDSOR.....	H. B. WALKER .....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	D. H. CHARLES.....	"

### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ ALEX. LAIRD.....	} Agents.
	{ WM. GRAY .....	

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## BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

### GREAT BRITAIN—

The Bank of Scotland.

### INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN—

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

### AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND—

The Union Bank of Australia, Limited.

### PARIS, FRANCE—

Messrs. Lazard Frères & Cie.

### BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—

Messrs. J. Matthieu & Fils.

### NEW YORK—

The American Exchange National Bank of New York.

### SAN FRANCISCO—

The Bank of British Columbia.

### CHICAGO—

The American Exchange National Bank of Chicago.

### DULUTH, MINNESOTA—

The First National Bank.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA—

The Bank of British Columbia.

### BERMUDA—

The Bank of Bermuda, Hamilton.

### JAMAICA—

The Bank of Nova Scotia, Kingston.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

31ST MAY, 1892.

## LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation.....	\$ 2,623,844 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	\$ 2,723,720 00
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date.....	14,276,464 42
Balances due to other Banks in Canada.....	17,000,184 42
Balances due to Foreign Correspondents .....	5,944 87
Balances due to Agents in Great Britain .....	10,897 78
Unclaimed Dividends.....	391,875 93
Dividend No. 50, payable 1st June.....	1,249 32
	210,000 00
	<u>\$20,243,996 32</u>
Capital paid-up .....	\$ 6,000,000 00
Rest .....	1,000,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward.....	19,549 19
	<u>7,019,549 19</u>
	<u>\$27,263,545 51</u>

## ASSETS

Specie .....	\$ 437,126 51
Dominion Notes .....	705,138 00
	<u>\$ 1,142,264 51</u>
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of Note circulation.....	67,539 65
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks .....	840,063 06
Balances due by other Banks in Canada .....	112,130 82
Balances due by Agents of the Bank in the United States..	2,959,133 65
British and Canadian Government Securities, Municipal and other Stocks and Bonds.....	1,555,585 11
Call Loans on Stocks and Bonds.....	1,948,930 61
	<u>\$ 8,625,653 41</u>
Time Loans on Stocks and Bonds .....	810,779 93
Other Current Loans and Discounts .....	16,784,297 71
Overdue Debts (loss fully provided for).....	110,705 45
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises).....	13,070 56
Mortgages .....	185,336 03
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	659,078 06
Other Assets .....	74,624 36
	<u>\$27,263,545 51</u>

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

## THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TUESDAY, 21ST JUNE, 1892.

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The twenty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was held in the banking-house on Tuesday, 21st June, 1892, at 12 o'clock. Among those in attendance were: Messrs. George A. Cox, John I. Davidson, W. B. Hamilton, John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., Robt. Kilgour, George Taylor, H. A. Massey, Walter S. Lee, Samuel Nordheimer, Edward Martin, Q.C., Hamilton; John Scott, Geo. Robinson, Robert Dennistoun, Joseph B. Folingsby, John Nicol, Andrew Nicol, Ashburn; John Tucker, Oakville; Philip Browne, A. E. Ames, R. H. Temple, and others.

On motion, the President, Mr. Geo. A. Cox, was requested to take the chair, and Mr. J. H. Plummer, the Assistant General Manager, was appointed to act as Secretary,

It was moved by Mr. John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., seconded by Mr. W. B. Hamilton, that Messrs. Philip Browne, A. E. Ames and R. H. Temple act as scrutineers.

The President called upon the Secretary to read the Annual Report of the Directors as follows:—

### REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the twenty-fifth Annual Report, covering the year ending 31st May, 1892, together with the usual Statement of Assets and Liabilities:—

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, brought forward from last year is .....	\$ 22,406 54
The net profits for the year ending 31st May, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amounted to .....	529,642 65
	<u>\$552,049 19</u>

Which has been appropriated as follows :—

Dividends Nos. 49 and 50 at 7 per cent. per annum .....	\$420,000 00
Transfer to Rest Account .....	100,000 00
Written off Bank Premises and Furniture.....	12,500 00
Balance carried forward.....	19,549 19
	<u>\$552,049 19</u>

The entire assets of the Bank have been subjected to the usual careful re-valuation, and ample provision has been made for all bad and doubtful items. The various branches, agencies and departments of the Bank have been inspected during the year.

Four additional branches have been opened—one at Ailsa Craig, Ont., rendered necessary by the growth of our business in the section hitherto served by the Parkhill branch; one near the St. Lawrence Market, Toronto; and two in Montreal, the first in order of time having been opened for business in the vicinity of Chaboillez Square, and the second on St. Lawrence Street, near its intersection with St. Catherine Street.

The Directors again record with pleasure their appreciation of the efficiency and zeal which have characterized the performance of their respective duties by the officers of the Bank.

GEO. A. COX,  
President.

The Report having been read, the President said :—

I need not say that it gives the Directors great pleasure to meet those present at this, the twenty-fifth Annual Meeting



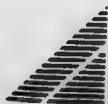
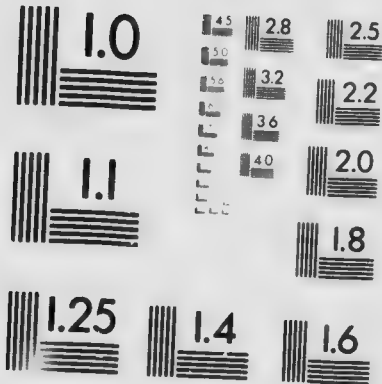
NELSON, B C

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of the Shareholders. The Statement of Assets and Liabilities now before you exhibits an active and increasing business, and the Profit and Loss Account shows that we have had a satisfactory year as to profits. After paying the usual dividend of seven per cent., we have been able again to add \$100,000 to our Rest Account, and to write \$12,500 off our Bank Premises Account. This brings the Rest Fund up to one million dollars, and while the percentage of this fund to the capital is still much smaller than we hope to see it in the future, the actual amount of the fund is large enough to be a source of great satisfaction to your Directors, especially in view of the care exercised each year in providing for every weak spot in the Bank's assets before undertaking to pass any sum to the Rest Account.

This is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of this Bank, and it may be interesting to you if I direct your attention for a short time to the growth it has made since the date of organization.

Perhaps the simplest test of the position it has gained among its fellow institutions is shown by the growth of its deposits. At the close of 1867, they amounted to \$766,000; at the close of 1877, \$7,304,000; 1887, \$10,082,000; while at the 31st May, 1892, they have reached the splendid figures shown in our Statement, namely \$17,000,184. There are banks in this Province with capital stocks much smaller than ours, which have been able to accumulate larger Rest Accounts, and to pay larger dividends, and we view their success with pride as we do that of any commercial institution founded in this Province. But the problem before a bank with a large capital, and that before a bank with a small capital, differs materially, and I am sure our Shareholders will hear with great satisfaction the facts and figures I am about to read setting forth some of the results of our first quarter-century of business. The fact that the dividend just paid is the fiftieth dividend, shows that in our history we have never failed to pay half-yearly dividends. For the entire period the divi-

dends average about seven and three-quarters per cent. per annum on the capital paid-up, and the aggregate of dividends paid amounts to the very large sum of \$10,137,955. If the dividends in the Bank's early years had been smaller, as they doubtless should have been, the Rest Account would at this moment be large enough to satisfy any of us. Again, if the capital had been smaller, the percentage of results would have been larger. But we are here to state the situation as it is, and the fact that we have made profits during the last twenty-five years in dividends paid and Rest accumulated, of over eleven million dollars, is a sufficient achievement, we think, to meet your approval. We believe we are safe in saying that no Canadian bank of the large class can show such a satisfactory record in its first quarter-century.

We enter upon our second quarter-century with assets of over \$27,000,000, with a large and steadily increasing business, with many highly valued customers and important connections, with an able and well-organized staff, and I see no reason why we should not enter upon it full of gratitude for the past and full of hope for the future.

After the Vice-President has seconded the resolution for the adoption of the Report, the General Manager will also address you, and if after that any gentleman present desires any further information we shall be glad to furnish it.

The Vice-President briefly seconded the resolution, and the General Manager then spoke as follows:—

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

From the Report of the Directors, now before the Shareholders, it will be seen that we have again to congratulate ourselves upon a satisfactory year's business. The additions to the Rest Account during the past five years have not been made, as we have frequently assured the Shareholders, until by the most painstaking valuation of our assets we have found ourselves warranted in doing so. The business of banking has not been marked during the year by exceptional risk in the conditions under which our money has been lent, but on

the other hand the profits have been only moderately satisfactory. During the entire year we have been compelled at several points, owing to the competition of other banks, to pay too high a rate for deposits, but this has now been partially remedied, although present rates are still higher than the money market at present justifies. For the first eight or nine months of our banking year, however, loaning rates were on a satisfactory basis, but at the moment there is certainly an uncomfortable amount of money which finds employment only in loans on securities. Should this continue into the autumn and winter months it will considerably curtail banking profits during the ensuing year, unless the interest rate on deposits is still further reduced.

#### DEPOSITS.

A year ago we drew your attention to the large increase in our deposits, expressing the feeling that the growth was in part probably temporary, but this year we have again to report a large gain, our deposits having reached a total of seventeen millions, nearly two millions in excess of last year. This—with our capital, circulation and other resources—brings the entire fund we have to administer up to twenty-seven million dollars, a very large sum, the safe and profitable employment of which is indeed a matter of incessant care and anxiety.

#### CROPS.

In the midst of our discontent a year ago we all hoped for a bountiful crop, looking to that as a panacea for all commercial ills. We are indeed apt to think that if nature would but do something unusual for our benefit all troubles would disappear. We have had a magnificent harvest, and nature, in connection with all agricultural pursuits, did her best for us, but it is doubtful if we grumble any the less. It is true that a very large amount of grain was held over by the farmers in Ontario and in the North-West, and the effect on trade of the marketing of this has yet to be experienced.

However, trade and clearing-house returns in both the United States and Canada show that the volume of business has increased and is larger under many heads than in any previous year. Debts also have been better paid, but it must be admitted that whether the volume has been kept up or not, many branches of trade have been unremunerative.

In wheat and other cereals and in cattle the farmer has profited, but the dealer has bought all along on a falling market. In the egg trade the prices paid by shippers were too high, being not very much lower than before the McKinley tariff. Still there is no longer any doubt as to our ability to send Canadian eggs in prime condition to Great Britain and to sell them at a fair price. The distance has been proved to be no practical difficulty. But the business apparently requires greater skill and more capital than many of our shippers possess, and it is to be hoped, in the interest of such an important trade, that it will be conducted hereafter mainly by men of tried capacity. The check caused by the United States tariff is very considerable, exports having fallen from an average, for several years, of thirteen to fourteen million dozens to eight million dozens. If the farmer can, however, make a profit at the prices being paid this season, the volume should soon rise to the old figures. Our manufacture of cheese again exceeds any previous season. For the year ending 31st March our export reached 111,000,000 lbs., valued at nearly \$11,000,000, an advance on the last season of a million and a quarter dollars. This was again accompanied by a falling off in the exports from the United States, amounting this year to nearly a million dollars in value. The season's operations were profitable to both factories and shippers. The experiments intended to demonstrate that butter-making may be carried on profitably during the months unsuitable for cheese-making have been, I understand, a success, and if in the counties in which cattle grazing, cheese-making and the fattening of hogs, interests closely allied, are now successfully carried on, we can add a large manufacture of high-class

butter without diminishing the output of cheese, a distinct forward movement in Ontario farming will have been made.

#### LUMBER AND TIMBER.

We have little that is not favourable to report of the lumber and timber trade. In the Ottawa district the pine timber manufactured was less than three million cubic feet, and adding thereto the stocks held over from previous years on account of the bad state of the trade, referred to in my remarks a year ago, the entire stock held for sale amounted to about five million cubic feet, a quantity considerably less than the yearly product of the seasons 1888-89 and 1889-90. For this there appears to be a satisfactory demand at good prices, so that it may be said that the timber trade has quite recovered its tone, a remarkable and gratifying change in a comparatively short time. In the Parry Sound and North Shore districts very little timber has been made, but there is an increase in the manufacture of deals, the trade in which has also improved considerably. Notwithstanding a slight increase in wages, and more than usual expense in driving owing to the late breaking up of the ice and low water, the bulk of the cut of logs will reach the mills in the Ottawa district, and at a reasonable cost. The cut, with the smaller amount than usual held over, makes a stock exceeding last year about ten per cent., but keeps well below the excessive production of 1887-88. The cut of logs elsewhere also somewhat exceeds that of 1890-91.

There has been an excellent market with some advance in prices in the United States, and a partial revival of the trade with South America, apparently indicating a return very soon to the demand which existed before the financial troubles of the last few years. The home consumption is still unsatisfactory because of the decline in building operations. The consumption of pulp wood is increasing very rapidly, and in view of our well nigh inexhaustible supplies of spruce, this is a trade which will soon, if it does not already, occupy a place of great importance among the industries of this Province.

## STATE OF TRADE.

There seems to be little in these conditions to warrant a feeling of disappointment. But there are other conditions. We are suffering all over North America from the waning of a wide-reaching real estate boom. The sudden decrease in building operations has thrown large numbers out of employment, and the supposed profits from real estate operations have in many cases disappeared. Many people are clearly not so well off as they imagined, and a general indisposition, and in some cases inability, to spend money as freely as heretofore is the natural result. Not only have the imaginary profits of past speculations disappeared, but there are at the moment no captivating suburban ventures, nor can the dealers in city lots trade with the certainty of a steadily rising market which has been so much the cause of the activity in business during late years. We have danced, and we must pay the piper with what grace we may.

There is also another grave reason for the dissatisfaction in some quarters with the results of business. There are too many people in business. This is getting to be an old story, but it seems necessary to draw attention to it until the remedy is applied. Small villages complain that their business is going to the larger towns, and the towns complain of the cities. Small manufacturers complain at the consolidation and so-called monopolies, which are becoming as marked a feature in Canada as elsewhere. Retail shop-keepers complain at the great establishments now common in many cities where almost anything may be bought at a margin of profit which is ruinous to the smaller dealer. Unfortunately some people view these changes as abnormal, and seem to be waiting for a return to former conditions. In the meantime the merchant, manufacturer or shop-keeper who finds himself at a disadvantage tries to meet the situation by the same old method of too long and too large credits, prices which leave too slender margin for profit, and added expenses in trying to meet his better situated competitors. But these changes,

which have concentrated business in larger centres and stronger hands, are but a part of the great centralization in commerce, labour, and so many things, which is one of the most prominent developments of the last decade or two. We have applied the wonderful machinery of the age to the better organization of trade, and as this goes on with remorseless strides the small centres of the world lose their importance, and, distance being practically lessened, the area controlled by larger cities or larger business organizations is enormously increased. The farmer's wife does not so often ride in a wagon five or ten miles to the nearest village to make her purchases, but with a Saturday half-ticket goes by rail twenty or thirty miles to the nearest town or city, and with less loss of time and greater ease. The merchant or manufacturer orders his merchandise from the uttermost parts of the earth, by cable if he chooses, with certainty as to the time of its arrival. The farmer raises food on the western prairies with no thought as to who will eat it, and thus furnishes food for outlandish folks thousands of miles away, of whom he has never heard.

This is a state of things which has brought too much ruin to individuals to warrant one in saying that it is an unmixed good, but it is a change permanent enough to demand that we should meet it with a more ready change of front than we at present offer. We talk vaguely about over-production as the source of many evils in trade, but there are many varieties of over-production. We have produced thousands of new houses in Toronto, clearly not required by the population, but it may not be these which are left vacant eventually, but the older and less attractive houses. In the same way we have a distinct over-production of shop-keepers and other men in business, and the men with the newest methods are apt to drive the others out. If business men find their trade or profits going from them, hard as it may be, they should meet such a state of affairs promptly by turning to some industry in which there is not over-production at the



moment. All grumbling to the contrary notwithstanding, there is no over-production in Canadian farming at the moment, and the return from the honest industry of a farmer in Ontario or the North-West is greater proportionately than in any of the ordinary callings of men with which I am acquainted.

We are a thoughtful, self-reliant people, as it becomes all Northern races to be. Instead, therefore, of viewing with envy the instances of rapid money-making in the United States, many in number, it is true, but few in percentage to the toiling millions in that country who may never hope for the comfort which is general in Ontario, let us look steadily at our own country and do what we can, as we have in the past, to increase our moderate but quite sufficient prosperity. Few people have shown in the past more enterprise in proportion to the population than Canada. Looking then at our country, as a whole, there are at the moment two serious problems before us. We have the greatest system of lakes and canals in the world, and they form the natural highway between the largest food producers of the world and the consumers of Europe. But this great waterway will never be complete until vessels of large capacity can steam from the head of Lake Superior to Great Britain. At the moment bulk is broken at Buffalo and again at New York for most of the grain carried by water, while the frequent transshipment enables the railroads to compete successfully. We should carry almost all the wheat destined for Europe from the United States and Canadian North-West down the St. Lawrence, while as a matter of fact we carry very little.

We have also in the Canadian Pacific Railway Company one of the greatest land and water carriers of the world, its pathway stretching from Asia to the eastern shore of America, but, great as this distance is, it is the width of the Atlantic too short to fully meet the requirement of this country. By a special effort, via New York, mails were carried by this line from Japan to England in twenty-one days. We should be



able to beat that record without deflecting from the straight path, and without the special effort. By the establishment of a first-class line of fast-going steamers between Canada and England we can carry the bulk of the merchandise and the majority of the travellers between Eastern Asia and Western Europe through our North-West country. When this is accomplished we shall not want for emigration, although that is but a side-issue to the main advantages to be derived from better connection with Europe.

The motion for the adoption of the Report was then put and carried.

Mr. H. A. Massey :—I rise to move the following resolution :—That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year. It has been my privilege to move resolutions similar to this on other occasions, but in this instance it is with special pleasure that I move it, for I have personal knowledge of some of the workings of this institution, and I know something of the attention of the officers to the interests of the Shareholders. I think the latter have reason to congratulate themselves on the manner in which the business of the Bank has been conducted for the past few years. There seems to be on the part of the Shareholders a feeling of confidence that everything is going all right, and I think they are justified in coming to that conclusion.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. John Scott, and on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

The President :—On my own behalf and on behalf of my colleagues I desire to thank you very heartily for the kind words in which the resolution has been proposed, and the cordial manner in which it has been received. The Directors earnestly work to the best of their ability for the interests of the Bank, and they appreciate this recognition of their efforts.

Mr. Walter S. Lee :—The resolution I am about to move is one I should like to say a great deal about, and could do

so with the utmost confidence. You have been furnished this year, and I may say every year under the new regime, with statements that are readable and clear, and that the Shareholders have confidence in. I took occasion when you entrusted the Bank to its present management to express my faith in the future of the Bank. At that time I represented a considerable amount of stock, and though some of the owners thought that it should be sold, my counsels prevailed; the stock has been held from that day to this, and there are no Shareholders more satisfied than those I speak of. The Bank has been very prosperous for the past five or six years. Indeed, it could not be otherwise than prosperous, because it started out then on a good business basis, had good men for Directors and was well officered. But I need not say anything in regard to the staff, because the reputation of the General Manager and Assistant General Manager extends throughout the Dominion and even to the other side. In speaking of the junior officers I need only refer to the remarks of our able President, who states that the Bank has been thoroughly inspected and that he and his co-Directors have the highest confidence in the staff. I trust that the institution may long be spared the services of the able men who now conduct it; there is not a weak link in the whole chain. I predict that next year we shall have as good a statement as we have now, notwithstanding the remarks of Mr. Walker in regard to the plethora of money. I beg to move that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager and other officers of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

This resolution was seconded by Mr. George Robinson.

In putting the motion to the meeting the President said:—I would like to say that I am not disposed to undervalue the careful deliberations of the Board, or their sound judgment and wise counsels in directing the policy of the Bank, but I am sure the Directors will all agree with me that it is to the care and watchfulness, to the zeal and energy and

to the ability of our General Manager and Assistant General Manager and their staff that the Shareholders are indebted to-day for the highly satisfactory Report that has been submitted to you, and for the satisfactory position the Bank now occupies. I am sure that this resolution will meet with your cordial approval. The motion was then carried.

Mr. Walker:—On my own behalf and that of the entire staff I have to thank you for the complementary resolution. Our managers now number nearly fifty. They are the confidential friends and sometimes advisers of thousands of business men throughout Ontario and elsewhere, and while faithfully guarding the interests of the Bank, I am sure that no body of bank managers could exercise more care for the true interests of their customers. As to our officers occupying less prominent positions we do our best to make even the youngest believe that the success of the Bank depends partly on his zeal. Whatever success we have had is due to the staff as a whole, and I am sure they both deserve and appreciate the thanks of the Shareholders.

Mr. Plummer also briefly replied on behalf of the staff.

Moved by Mr. John I. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Robt. Kilgour, and carried, that the meeting do now proceed to elect Directors for the coming year, and that for this purpose the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until three o'clock this day, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes have elapsed without a vote being tendered; the result of the election to be reported by the scrutineers to the General Manager.

The meeting then adjourned.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected as Directors for the ensuing year:—Messrs. George A. Cox, James Crathern, John I. Davidson, William B. Hamilton, John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., Robert Kilgour, Matthew Leggat and George Taylor.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held subsequently, Geo. A. Cox, Esq., was re-elected President, and John I. Davidson, Esq., Vice-President.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

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CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,100,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

GEORGE A. COX, ESQ.,	-	-	PRESIDENT.
JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.,	-	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.			ROBERT KILGOUR, ESQ.
WM. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.			MATTHEW LEGGAT, ESQ.
JOHN HOSKIN, ESQ., Q.C., LL.D.			GEORGE TAYLOR, ESQ.

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**B. E. WALKER**, General Manager.

**J. H. PLUMMER**, Asst. General Manager.

**A. H. IRELAND**, Inspector.

**G. de C. O'GRADY**, Asst. Inspector.

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

### ONTARIO—

AILSA CRAIG.....	G. M. WEDD.....	Manager
AYR ... ..	JOHN WYLLIE.....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	H. H. MORRIS.....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE.....	C. M. STORK.....	"
BERLIN .....	W. C. J. KING.....	"
BLENHEIM.....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
BRANTFORD.....	JEFFERY HALE .....	"
CAYUGA .....	W. C. T. MORSON .....	"
CHATHAM .....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	JAS. BRYDON.....	"
DUNDAS.....	F. W. HOLMESTED .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	R. G. W. CONOLLY .....	"
GALT .....	J. M. DUFF .....	"
GODERICH.....	R. S. WILLIAMS.....	"
GUELPH.....	B. R. MCCONKEY.....	"
HAMILTON .....	WM. ROBERTS.....	"
JARVIS .....	W. C. T. MORSON.....	"
LONDON .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	H. T. WILLS.....	"
OTTAWA.....	ROBERT GILL.....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. MACPHERSON .....	"
PARKHILL.....	G. M. WEDD.....	"
PETERBORO .....	WM. MANSON.....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SAULT STE. MARIE .....	D. MCGREGOR .....	"
SEAFORTH.....	M. MORRIS.....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	W. MAYNARD, JR.....	"
STRATHROY .....	L. H. DAMPIER .....	"
THOROLD.....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
TORONTO (Chief Office).. {		
		JOHN C. KEMP.....
		JOHN AIRD .....
268 COLLEGE, COR. SPADINA .....	G. A. HOLLAND.....	Asst. Mgr
128 KING ST. EAST .....	R. C. MCHARRIE.....	Manager.
415 PARLIAMENT ST. ....	V. E. HART.....	"
712 QUEEN ST. EAST .....	A. BRADLEY.....	"
344 QUEEN ST. WEST .....	H. C. SECORD.....	"
450 YONGE, COR. COLLEGE.....	T. S. HARRISON.....	"
791 YONGE ST.....	R. J. MONTGOMERY.....	"
TORONTO JUNCTION ....	R. C. JENNINGS.....	"
WALKERTON .....	G. W. MCKEE.....	"

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES—Continued.

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WALKERVILLE.....	{	H. B. WALKER.....	Manager.
		F. C. G. MINTY.....	Sub-Mgr.
WATERLOO.....		H. J. GRASETT.....	Manager.
WINDSOR.....		H. B. WALKER.....	"
WOODSTOCK.....		D. H. CHARLES.....	"
<b>QUEBEC—</b>			
MONTREAL (Chief Office).	{	A. M. CROMBIE.....	Manager.
		J. L. HARCOURT.....	Asst. Mgr.
19 CHABOILLEZ SQUARE..		W. W. RUTHVEN.....	Manager.
276 ST. LAWRENCE ST....		J. G. PYKE.....	"
<b>MANITOBA—</b>			
WINNIPEG.....		F. H. MATHEWSON.....	Manager.
<b>UNITED STATES—</b>			
NEW YORK.....	{	ALEX. LAIRD.....	} Agents.
		WM. GRAY.....	

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## BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

<b>GREAT BRITAIN—</b>	
	The Bank of Scotland.
<b>INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN—</b>	
	The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.
<b>AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND—</b>	
	The Union Bank of Australia, Limited.
<b>PARIS, FRANCE—</b>	
	Crédit Lyonnais.
	Messrs. Lazard Frères & Cie.
<b>BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—</b>	
	Messrs. J. Matthieu & Fils.
<b>NEW YORK—</b>	
	The American Exchange National Bank of New York.
<b>SAN FRANCISCO—</b>	
	The Bank of British Columbia.
<b>CHICAGO—</b>	
	The American Exchange National Bank of Chicago.
<b>DULUTH, MINNESOTA—</b>	
	The First National Bank.
<b>BRITISH COLUMBIA—</b>	
	The Bank of British Columbia.
<b>HAMILTON, BERMUDA—</b>	
	The Bank of Bermuda.
<b>KINGSTON, JAMAICA—</b>	
	The Bank of Nova Scotia.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

31ST MAY, 1893.

## LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$ 2,708,167 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	\$ 2,801,827 97
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date .....	15,164,372 21
	<hr/>
Balances due to other Banks in Canada.....	17,966,200 18
Balances due to Foreign Correspondents.....	6,197 38
Balances due to Agents in Great Britain.....	6,353 40
Unclaimed Dividends.....	891,249 20
Dividend No. 52, payable 1st June.....	659 07
Capital paid-up.....	210,000 00
Rest .....	\$ 6,000,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward .....	1,100,000 00
	<hr/>
	23,561 12
	<hr/>
	7,123,561 12
	<hr/>
	\$28,912,387 35

## ASSETS

.....	\$431,707 16
Dominion Notes .....	656,362 25
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,088,069 41
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of Note circulation.....	143,391 90
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	759,592 67
Balances due by other Banks in Canada.....	93,988 79
Balances due by Agents of the Bank in the United States..	2,436,889 79
British and Canadian Government Securities, Municipal and other Stocks and Bonds.....	2,097,196 84
Call Loans on Stocks and Bonds.....	942,060 35
	<hr/>
	\$ 7,561,189 75
Time Loans on Stocks and Bonds .....	892,912 48
Other Current Loans and Discounts.....	19,382,738 18
Overdue Debts (loss fully provided for) .....	143,227 61
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises) .....	17,340 27
Mortgages.....	140,054 13
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	704,496 51
Other Assets .....	70,428 42
	<hr/>
	\$28,912,387 35





NEW YORK, N. Y.



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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## REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

## THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TUESDAY, 20TH JUNE, 1893.

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The twenty-sixth Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was held in the banking-house on Tuesday, 20th June, 1893, at 12 o'clock. Among those present were :—Messrs. Geo. A. Cox, John I. Davidson, W. B. Hamilton, John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., Robert Kilgour, Matthew Leggat, Hamilton; James Crathern, Montreal; Robert Stuart, Chicago; Frederick Wyld, Henry Beatty, Edward Martin, Q.C., Hamilton; Hon. A. M. Ross, Samuel Nordheimer, John Nicol, Thomas Walmsley, John Scott, Geo. Robinson, J. B. Folingsby, Philip Browne, R. H. Temple, and others.

On motion, the President, Mr. Geo. A. Cox, was requested to take the chair, and Mr. J. H. Plummer, the Assistant General Manager, was appointed to act as Secretary.

It was moved by Mr. W. B. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. R. Kilgour, that Messrs. Philip Browne and R. H. Temple act as scrutineers.

The President called upon the Secretary to read the Annual Report of the Directors as follows :—

## REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the twenty-sixth Annual Report, covering the year ending 31st May, 1893, together with the usual Statement of Assets and Liabilities:—

The balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, brought forward from last year, is.....	\$ 19,549 19
The net profits for the year ending 31st May, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amounted to .....	536,511 93
	<u>\$556,061 12</u>

Which has been appropriated as follows:—

Dividends Nos. 51 and 52, at seven per cent. per annum .....	\$420,000 00
Transferred to Rest Account.....	100,000 00
Written off Bank Premises and Furniture .....	12,500 00
Balance carried forward .....	23,561 12
	<u>\$556,061 12</u>

The usual careful revaluation of the entire assets of the Bank has been made, and all bad and doubtful debts have been amply provided for.

The various branches, agencies, and departments of the Bank have been inspected during the year.

Two additional branches have been opened—at Winnipeg and Toronto Junction. Apart from New York and Montreal our branches, as the Shareholders know, have hitherto all been in the Province of Ontario. We have deferred opening in Winnipeg owing to the fluctuating character of the prosperity of the North-West until the last year or two, but the growing interests of our customers rendered it necessary that we should not delay longer. We have secured the services of one of the most experienced bankers in the North-West, who had formerly been a member of our staff, and with the business already obtained from outside sources, added to that

which comes to us through our Ontario connections, we have no doubt of our ability to build up a safe and reasonably profitable business.

Having suffered inconvenience at Ottawa for some years owing to our inability to rent premises suitable for our business, we have during the year purchased the building lately owned by La Banque Nationale.

The Board are of opinion that the time has come when the establishment of a Superannuation Fund for the employees of the Bank is desirable. To effect this a modification of By-Law No. 8 is necessary, also a resolution respecting the contribution to be made to the fund by the Bank. While submitting these, the Board think it well to ask the Shareholders to revise and consolidate the whole of the By-Laws, in order that some slight changes required to bring them into accord with the present Bank Act may be made.

The Directors have again pleasure in recording their appreciation of the efficiency and zeal with which their respective duties have been performed by the officers of the Bank.

GEO. A. COX,  
President.

The Report having been read, the President said:—

The statement now submitted for your approval exhibits another year's steady growth, represented by total assets of \$28,912,387.35, as compared with \$27,263,545.51, an increase for the year of \$1,648,841.84.

The Profit and Loss Account shows a result very similar to that of the previous year, the payments of two half-yearly dividends amounting to \$420,000, the addition of \$100,000 to the Rest, making it now \$1,100,000, and \$12,500 written off Bank Premises—a return of very nearly nine per cent. to our Shareholders, which I am sure must be regarded by them as quite satisfactory.

We hear around us expressions of disappointment at the profits arising from business, and the general state of business

affairs; we are apt, however, to forget that while the unfortunate are generally ready enough to complain, the fortunate are not always anxious to reveal their affairs to the public. Again, I am afraid it is true that our expectation of what fortune should do for us is always pitched too high. In the Bank we see the balance sheets of very many different kinds of business, and of many different men in the same kind of business; a very trifling minority may have fallen behind in capital during the past year, but we have remarked more than once at the Board table that at no time in recent years has the improvement in capital, as shown by the surplus in the customers' balance sheets, been so general. It is true that in many cases the gains are not large, but this is healthy and natural and certainly affords no ground for general complaint. Apart from those who have only done moderately well, we are in a position to know that in many of the most important business industries profits have been made which are not only large, but are as large as the most sanguine could desire, and we think it doubtful if ever before in Canada so many different classes of the manufacturing industries were at the same time so prosperous. This has been largely brought about by consolidation and the economies in capital, cost of manufacture and distribution which arise therefrom.

When we regard Toronto alone, we are aware that some have suffered from the over-building and speculation in unimproved real estate in very much the same way as persons, who without experience and without sufficient capital rush into mercantile or manufacturing life, meet with disaster and loss.

For the period of ten years ending with 1891, the population of Toronto, including the addition of three small suburbs, increased from 77,034 to 188,914, or 145 per cent. This remarkable growth means that the business and dwelling house accommodation had to be increased nearly one and a half times in that brief period to receive over 100,000 additional people. It cannot be a matter of surprise that the increase in the value of land and in the demand for houses,

consequent upon this rapid growth in population, should have unduly stimulated speculation, and should have drawn into land transactions many persons inexperienced in that business. We are now passing through a period of liquidation which naturally follows an era of such unprecedented activity; imaginary profits are being abandoned, and many properties are passing into the hands of persons able and anxious to buy them at fair prices. The depression is gradually passing away. We find in the causes of the recent rapid growth the best guarantees of the city's future. It is the metropolis of one of the finest and largest agricultural districts on the continent, and is the second city in Canada and must share in the general progress of Ontario and of the Dominion. There does not seem to have been at any time an exaggeration of values of well located central properties, but a steady and warranted increase. This is true, if tested according to the values in other cities of similar size, or according to sales and ground rentals recently made on King and Yonge Streets. The latter attest that the values of choice properties in this city are higher to-day than ever before.

Perhaps one of the most unfortunate results of this overbuilding is the entirely erroneous impression that has been conveyed to the outside world. Many persons are under the impression that it has been so far-reaching as to seriously affect some of our loan companies. I am not in a position to speak for all our companies, but I imagine the experience of others is very much the same, and having a seat at the board of three institutions—a life company, a trust company and a loan company—whose aggregate loans in the City of Toronto amount to over \$7,000,000, I am able to say from my own personal knowledge that the aggregate losses of these three companies, extending over the last ten years, have not reached \$10,000 during the whole of that time, and I am equally sure that they would not to-day pay \$50,000 to be indemnified against loss. It is true that the loans of these companies are confined to improved business and

residential properties in desirable localities ; the lower rate of interest at which money can now be borrowed on choice Toronto properties make these securities worth considerably more at the present time than their face value. I ought perhaps to add that I do not make these remarks because of any interest the Bank has in real estate transactions, but because I think injustice has been done to Toronto in this connection, which may reflect on some of our financial institutions. As far as the Bank is concerned, we have been steadily opposed to such business, and we have succeeded in keeping our books clear of transactions resting on real estate.

Your Directors think the time has now come when a superannuation fund should be established in the interest of the staff, and a resolution will be submitted for your approval authorizing the sum of \$10,000 a year to be set aside for that purpose. About 15 years ago a guarantee fund was established, to which each member of the staff contributed a certain percentage of his salary for a certain period of time, and out of this fund all losses for defalcations or errors were paid. The exceedingly small demand upon this fund not only reflects very great credit upon the integrity and efficiency of our staff, but has led to the accumulation of the handsome capital of over \$100,000. It is now the desire of the staff that the surplus in this fund should be used in connection with the proposed superannuation fund. The interest earnings from this source, the annual contributions by the Bank, and a small percentage of the salary of each member of the staff, will rapidly accumulate a fund that will make a handsome provision for our staff as they become, from old age or otherwise, incapacitated for work. The number of the staff at present is 368, and being in the main young men, we may fairly assume that it will be at least 15 years before any appreciable demand will be made upon the fund, and by this time it will have assumed handsome proportions.

I will not enter into any further details with regard to this, as my remarks are already too long, but if any Share



holder would like further explanations as to this or as to any other matter, we shall be glad to answer any questions.

I now beg to move the adoption of this Report, which will be seconded by the Vice-President, and before submitting it to the meeting, I will ask the General Manager to favour us with his usual annual address, which is looked forward to with so much interest.

The Vice-President briefly seconded the resolution, and the General Manager then spoke as follows :—

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

You will have learned from the Report of the Directors, now before you, that we have experienced our usual progress during the past year. During the first half of our business year the profits were much smaller than usual, owing to the easy condition of the money market, referred to in my remarks at the last meeting of Shareholders. The last half, however, quite made up for this. I would like again, as I did a few years ago, to draw your attention to the fact that while the large capital and the moderate proportions of our Rest make the rate of dividend paid smaller than that paid by several other banks, we have, nevertheless, made a larger return on Capital and Rest combined than the majority of the leading banks in Canada whose statements have yet been published.

#### DEPOSITS.

Our deposits have now for some years past shown a handsome increase. This year they have practically reached eighteen millions of dollars, or about one million more than a year ago, a growth less great, it is true, than in the two previous years, but quite satisfactory. We have during the past year refused a large amount of deposits because of our unwillingness to pay the rates still being paid by some banks.

#### STATE OF TRADE.

If we consider the condition of business in Canada as a whole, there is not much ground for complaint. In particular lines of business there is doubtless much need of improvement

and in the North-West matters generally are not as well as we could wish. But while the steadiness in the annual return from our farming in Ontario is due to diversity in farming, so in the business world we have at least sufficiently diversified interests to avoid the losses of one or two industries, or the bad crops of one or two localities, affecting the general result. The profits of the wholesale dealers who carry on the distributing trade of the country are not quite what they should be, we are told. This is the more to be regretted because it was hoped that the weeding out of so many unnecessary shopkeepers on the one hand, and the slight measure of co-operation as to terms and prices brought about during the past year or so on the other, would insure a fair return to those engaged in the distribution of goods. Wholesale manufacturers who sell direct, as well as wholesale jobbers, are suffering somewhat from the disappointing payments this spring by merchants and shopkeepers in the North-West and British Columbia.

The volume of business, however, is doubtless larger than ever before, and as we have said, complaints regarding profits are far from general. In most lines of manufacture fair profits have been made, and in some very handsome profits indeed. Unfortunately flour-milling, owing to the steady decline in the price of wheat, is a noteworthy exception.

The wide range of machines and other articles manufactured to aid the farmer in his operations from the preparation of the ground to the thrashing of his grain, constitute such an important share of our manufactures that we have regarded the extent to which the farmer buys and pays for such goods as fair evidence for or against his prosperity. Quoting from sales and collections running into several millions of dollars, we find that in Ontario farmers paid their paper without renewal to the extent of over 96 per cent. In the North-West, where the year is admitted to be unfavourable, and where renewals are always required more or less, the payments were under 60 per cent.

## EXPORT TRADE AND LUMBER.

It has been the habit to treat with good-natured contempt the prospect of Canada ever having an export trade to any extent in articles of its own manufacture. But however slow the growth may be, it has in certain lines of manufacture quite passed the initial stages, and we are already doing in these goods a great and increasingly important trade in many different countries of the world.

When we turn to what is still our greatest manufactured export, lumber and timber, we have this year in the main a very satisfactory state of affairs to report.

The winter has been favourable in some sections, unfavourable in others, for operations in the woods, and the cost of supplies and labour has been higher, so that on the whole the cost of the product will be greater than last year. On the other hand, the advance in price will very much more than offset this. Many of our customers have already contracted for the whole of their summer's output ; and unless financial troubles in the United States interfere very seriously with consumption, a very much larger amount of money than usual will be returned to us for lumber alone.

The cut of saw-logs in the Ottawa District, and the stock held over from last season, are about the same as last season, but owing to the handsome advance in price the yield in money will be materially larger. Indeed the output as a whole is said never to have been sold to yield a higher price. The amount of squared white pine timber is about the same as last season, while the waney timber is about doubled. At the moment the market is very dull and the outlook not so bright as for lumber. The market for deals, however, is all that could be desired.

The conditions both as to lumber and timber in other districts are not materially different, except that, apart from saw-logs cut in Canada by Michigan firms to be sawn in Michigan, a considerable quantity of saw-logs taken out by Canadian firms have been sold in Michigan instead of being

sawn into lumber in Canada as heretofore. It is to be hoped that before very long the demand from the east and better railroad facilities will make it more profitable to cut all these logs in Canada, instead of towing them across Lake Huron. Perhaps, indeed, the scarcity of white pine lumber may have the effect of removing the duty within the next year or two.

#### AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

If we turn to the agricultural interests of Ontario, whether the farmers complain or not, we can find little that is not satisfactory.

Every year is a banner year in cheese, because thus far the trade has steadily increased. The figures we quote are for Canada as a whole, but as yet most of the cheese is made in Ontario. The great growth in this industry may be best shown by quoting the money value of the yearly exports at intervals of ten years, adding the year just past. The cheese year is made to close 31st March.

1860.....	\$ 13,675
1870.....	674,486
1880.....	3,893,366
1890.....	9,372,212
1893.....	13,687,851

The past year has been favourable to manufacturers and middlemen alike. The average price was slightly less than in the previous year, but the yield was larger and this more than made up any loss in price. The foreign market for cheese is, as far as we know, almost unlimited, and with the low price of wheat, and the growing uncertainty as to the average price of wheat even over a series of years, we are glad to notice that every season new districts are beginning to produce cheese. The coming year, owing to these facts and the favourable weather for grass, promises a large increase.

The cattle trade grows, and while it has not yet become for the exporter a business free from abnormal risks, the grazier obtains pretty fair results and the volume of business

steadily increases. For the moment the drovers and shippers hold back until the difficulties attending the scheduling of Canadian cattle in Great Britain are removed. Fortunately our cattle are free from disease, but it is well to remember with reference to cattle, cheese, apples, or any of our products, manufactured or unmanufactured, that we create our foreign trade with difficulty because we are a small body of people, and therefore we cannot afford to send abroad anything but our best. Wherever Canadian products are known, especially in the United States and Great Britain, they stand for excellence. Let us at all hazards maintain the standard. As an instance of the growth of the cattle trade, at one of our branches in the finest part of Ontario our business with drovers has increased seven fold in six years, by a steady annual growth.

We have lost a large part of our trade in low grade horses through the McKinley tariff and the conversion to electricity of horse car lines. But our high grade horses sell as well or better than ever, and certain classes of draught horses are in demand for Great Britain. It is our own fault if we do not, by elevating the standard, maintain and increase this important branch of business.

Each year lately farmers have fattened more hogs, but this last year has demonstrated more clearly than ever that we quite undervalue our capacity in this direction. The supply in the farmers' hands was eagerly purchased at high prices, and the business was profitable to our few packers, yet the whole trade is a bagatelle as compared with what it might be.

The egg trade is in a peculiar condition. The exports of 1887 to 1890, inclusive, averaged thirteen to fourteen million dozen for each year. The seasons of 1891 and 1892 fell to eight million dozen for each year. A small profit was made during the past season, but the price to the farmer was about two cents per dozen less than before the McKinley tariff. Our eggs go to Great Britain in perfect condition. There is

no difficulty in that direction. On the other hand, extraordinary prices have been paid in New York—high enough to enable us to pay the duty and still reap large profits if our eggs had not already gone to another destination. The situation may please the western farmer in the United States, but it is certainly hard on the eastern consumer.

When the McKinley tariff was imposed, we feared the results to the Quebec farmer, in the matter of hay perhaps more than in anything else, but we miscalculated. The export business to Great Britain is already important, and, at the moment, although we have had a spring unusually favourable to hay, the demand from Great Britain is very great, prices being as high as £5 per ton, with many enquiries for Ontario hay. Fruit continues to be an important element in the products of the Ontario farmer. The apple crop last year was large, and the farmer was well paid for them, but the shippers again lost money through over-shipping to Great Britain. It is to be regretted that, notwithstanding the fact that only apples of the best quality can be exported profitably, many farmers neglect their orchards and allow the fruit to deteriorate in size and quality.

I refer to the grain crops last. The price of wheat was, of course, quite unsatisfactory. The Ontario farmer cannot raise wheat at these prices, but it is quite clear that he does not need to raise much wheat. From every part of Ontario our managers make pretty much the same report. The farmers have more than off-set the low price for grain by the high prices for cheese and hogs. Or, we are told that the farmers, owing to the low prices of wheat, are year after year turning their attention more to dairying, cattle grazing, fattening hogs, or fruit growing. Again we are told that in many counties the farmers are still holding last year's wheat, and in some localities two or three years' crops of wheat. This may be a very foolish thing for a farmer to do, but let us bear in mind that he is financially *able* to do it. From the same counties we have the information—in fact, there are very few

exceptions throughout Ontario—that the deposits in banks are increasing, that farmers' notes for implements are promptly paid, that he does not want to borrow from the banks, and is meeting the interest, and to some extent reducing the principal on his mortgages. Also, that there is no demand for mortgage loans, and that upon mortgages subject to repayment many good farmers are demanding a reduction in the rate of interest.

#### THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

The last few months has been a period of unusual anxiety throughout the financial world. Our business interests are now so large that we cannot watch unconcerned the troubles of other countries. Even if Canada had no business connection with these countries, or so little as to make their troubles of small direct interest to us, we must in these times of rapidly changing conditions be always on the alert to grasp the lessons to be learned from every panic or financial collapse. We are very apt to think that human nature among civilized nations is pretty much the same everywhere—that motives and conclusions, based upon the same conditions, will not be very different in different countries, and yet every collapse of man's business schemes conveys in its history evidence contrary to this view. We are amazed at the slender basis on which nations, certainly not less intelligent than ourselves, build enormous structures of credit; and when failure enables us to view the inside of these ruined structures, we are not astonished at the collapse, but that such structures should have imposed upon the confidence of prudent people. I do not wish to be misunderstood, however, regarding our own country. We have in the past made serious mistakes, and while these will probably not be repeated in the future, we may fall into error in new directions. Something, however, in our northern blood seems to keep us from getting altogether out of sound condition. Perhaps the comparative slowness of our progress, and the labour and patience necessary to each step forward, have

been of benefit to us, although these are with the majority reasons for complaint. Perhaps, indeed, a nation of grumblers who do not take too roseate a view of their prosperity is a safer field for investment by the foreign capitalist than those Eldorados where he hopes to lend his principal *safely* and to obtain *high* rates of interest at the same time.

In Italy we have seen almost a complete failure of the entire banking system, the gravest evils being temporarily averted by amalgamating several large banks into one stupendous whole. In Rome a real estate speculation of extraordinary magnitude, to which we have before referred, came to its natural end some time ago, and it now appears as if this real estate building and speculating had been largely aided by the banks, who also assisted equally wild ventures of other kinds. The country which, having almost no manufactures or diversified industries, had little basis for much sound banking, now finds itself over-loaded with irredeemable paper money, the security for which is admitted to be unsaleable real estate to a very large extent.

In Australia the collapse has been almost as complete. Offering higher rates of interest than other countries could afford, they attracted both from abroad and from their own people an amount of money to the banks in the shape of short and time deposits, the magnitude of which has always been a matter of extreme surprise to Canadians. It is not astonishing now to learn that it was as freely lent as it was obtained, and that the inducement to lend has often been the high rates paid by the borrower rather than good and easily liquidated security. This is not the time, however, to make unkind criticisms regarding our Australian cousins. It is rather a time to express our gratification that certain great Australian banks, evidently managed on sound principles, survived the terrible strain. What we wish to draw your attention to is the difference in the nature of the banking of Canada and in these countries. To begin with, our deposits are almost entirely from our own people. Therefore, distrust



of Canadian banks as a whole must arise from within, which is to the last degree improbable. Again, instead of having large creditors abroad, our banks invest part of their reserves in the United States in a shape available for liquidation on short notice. While this is sometimes the cause of complaint by borrowers, who think money might be cheaper if this were kept at home, bankers know that it is our chief source of supply and strength in times when additional money is needed in Canada.

But the main feature in our banking as compared with these countries rests upon the nature of the advances made to the borrowing public. The prudent Canadian banker has long since learned that he may lend to a manufacturer to aid him in bringing his goods to market, but that he must not lend him to build his factory; that he may lend the flour miller or lumberman to make his flour or lumber, but he must not lend money to help him build a mill. Many loans in Canada are of course not in this happy shape, but the point is that they are recognized as departures from sound banking and are not accepted as satisfactory business. We argue that as a bank's liabilities are practically on demand or short notice, its loans should, as far as possible, represent transactions which in the natural course of things will be liquidated in the current year or season.

There is another comparison which may be made between Canadian and Australian banks, which will illustrate the difference in the character of the discount business very clearly. In both countries the banks issue note circulation and have about the same privileges. In Australia it is true gold circulates to some extent, but not enough to interfere with the value of my illustration. Now, calculating roughly, the volume of bank notes in circulation in the two countries will depend on the character of the discounts. If loans are made against fixed property and are renewed over and over again, no note circulation will be created, but if loans are made to prepare and move merchandise to market, a certain

amount of circulation will arise from each transaction, whether it be in paying for labour, paying farmers for their products, or in the many other forms in which actual cash is necessary. Now with loans and securities in Australia of about \$700,000,000, the circulation is only about \$23,000,000, the ratio being about  $3\frac{1}{4}$  per cent., while in Canada with loans and securities at 31st December, 1892, of about \$250,000,000 and circulation of about \$36,000,000, the ratio is over 14 per cent. There may of course be other local reasons why our circulation is larger proportionately than theirs, but in the main the reason assigned is I think correct. Australia has few manufactures, not many different kinds of industries, and the basis for real mercantile banking is much smaller than the volume of loans which the banks have attempted to carry.

But I must not be understood as criticizing loans on real estate. Under proper conditions there can surely be no safer business. The point is that in Canada we have realized that land banking and mercantile banking are two very different things, and we mercantile bankers, therefore, leave as strictly as possible to the loan companies the business of carrying the fixed property of the country on which money is borrowed. It is their business to be experts in such values, not ours.

We are, however, much more interested in the situation in the United States than in Australia or Italy, and while the National Banks, like ourselves, have no power to loan on real estate, it is to be feared that owing to the practice of borrowing money on accommodation paper through brokers, and the practice of borrowers keeping several bank accounts, much paper is held by banks which represents speculations in real estate, in industrial companies the stocks of which have not been absorbed by investors, and many other transactions which do not come under the head of sound mercantile banking. The great cotton and wheat crops of 1891, exported mainly in 1892, doubtless gave a tremendous impetus to the imports of the latter part of 1892 and the spring of 1893. This was further aggravated by the McKinley



ORANGEVILLE, ONT.

A similar building has been erected at Portage la Prairie, Man.



tariff, under the operation of which certain changes were deferred until 1893, and large imports are of course being made in advance of these changes. The much smaller cotton and smaller cereal crops of 1892, with the decline in prices and the large stocks at home and abroad, have created an enormous gap between exports and imports, which quite apart from the return of American securities and the distrust as to the parity of gold and silver being maintained, was a sufficient cause for large exports of gold. The silver situation, however, outweighs all else in importance. During the existence of the Bland Act, that is from 1878 to 1890, many things helped to avert disaster following the coinage of silver. Gold came into the country from abroad to a very large extent. The revenue from the high tariff enabled the government to reduce the national debt at a pace unheard of in the financial history of the world. This caused the retirement of over \$200,000,000 of National Bank currency, the bonds on which it was based being called in or sold by the banks because of the high premium. This contraction and the rapid growth of the country easily made a place for silver or silver-paper, created at the rate of only \$2,000,000 per month. But now the country is required to absorb twice as much, and all the fortunate circumstances which helped to avert disaster under the Bland Act have disappeared. Gold is not coming in, but steadily going abroad. The charges of the Federal Government, what with pension bills, public works, etc., have reached a billion dollars for the present Congress. The tariff and other taxes no longer meet the charges. They have fallen on a bad year of exports, and failing to act quickly enough in repealing the Sherman silver-purchase bill, speculation in every direction has collapsed, and worse than this, very many solvent business men are unable to have their natural and moderate wants supplied. Within the last week or so two New York papers have tried to obtain a vote of Congressmen and Senators as to the repeal of the silver bill. If we are to be influenced by their reports the repeal is nearly

certain. Let us hope so. It is humiliating to see a great nation floundering in such a mess, when nothing but the simplest common sense is necessary. Yet it is a matter of votes, and we can have no certainty until the repeal is actually accomplished.

Meantime we should be thankful that matters move along quietly in Canada, and that apparently we can abide the issue whatever it may be. We have had a close money market, sharply following a period of great ease. A collapse in local stock speculation occurred and was perfectly natural. Those who were hurt blamed the banks, but this is nothing new. It was doubtless well that speculation was checked at that time and not allowed to run a few months longer. Looking around us, while every caution is necessary, we do not see anything in the outlook which is not hopeful for Canada. It will be strange, if when the dust has blown away, British investors do not see in our steadiness and sound financial position good reason to invest in this country some of that constantly increasing income which in the past has flowed so easily to the southern half of the world.

The motion for the adoption of the Report was then put and carried.

#### AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS.

In moving the resolution respecting the By-laws, Dr. Hoskin explained fully the alterations and additions thereto, the chief of which were the provisions for the Superannuation Fund, and the increase in the allowance for Directors' fees from \$10,000 to \$12,000.

He further said:—Before moving the adoption of the By-laws I desire to make an observation in connection with the President's remarks upon the real estate situation in Toronto, a matter very appropriately referred to in view of the fact that whatever affects the interests of Toronto, advantageously or otherwise, must reflect upon and affect the material interests of our banking institutions. There has, no doubt, been over-building in Toronto, but that is a condition

which is true of other cities and towns on this continent, and even of some in England and elsewhere. Taking London, England, for example, there are in many of the suburbs hundreds of shops, and rows upon rows of unoccupied dwellings, built in advance of the requirements of the people; nevertheless if because this is the case it were said that London was in a bad way and generally going to the dogs, such a conclusion would be altogether erroneous. It is equally erroneous when applied to Toronto at the present time. A lot of imaginary wealth has vanished, and fictitious and unhealthy prosperity in some quarters has also vanished, but the material wealth and prosperity were never so great as at present. The President, in support of his views, referred to the experience of building societies and kindred institutions as an index to the financial conditions of the city. From my connection with several institutions of this nature, I am in a position to testify to the accuracy of his remarks. The companies with which I am connected have over \$1,500,000 invested in mortgages on city property, and in a period of several years they have not had more than \$10,000 of city property thrown on their hands, and their losses thereon would be more than covered by \$1,500 to \$2,000. These figures speak for themselves. Toronto is the metropolis of this fair Province, the centre of many institutions whose establishment here guarantee its stability, and I venture to say that its future progress is beyond peradventure.

To return to the subject of my motion, I will now ask the Secretary to read the proposed By-laws.

The Secretary having read the By-laws, it was moved by Dr. Hoskin, and seconded by Mr. Leggat, that By-laws Nos. 1 to 8, as read, be and the same are hereby adopted as the By-laws of The Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Mr. Edward Martin, Q.C.—I am very glad to see some of the changes in the By-laws. The establishment of the Superannuation Fund is a very proper move. Banks as a rule are only able to pay moderate salaries to their employees,

and it is therefore only a matter of justice that the Bank should contribute liberally to a fund which will provide a very moderate competence to its deserving officers when they have outlived their usefulness.

I think it is also fair and right that as the volume of the Bank's business has largely increased, we should recognize the fact by a suitable increase in the allowance to the President and Directors, who must naturally spend a good deal of valuable time in looking after the Bank's affairs.

I am glad also to hear the emphatic assurances that the Bank in its loaning operations has kept clear of real estate.

The resolution adopting the new By-laws was then carried; and on motion of the same gentlemen the following resolution was passed unanimously :—

That the Board of Directors be and are hereby authorized to contribute annually to the Superannuation Fund for the employees of the Bank such sum, not exceeding \$10,000 in each year, as they in their discretion may deem proper.

It was then moved by Mr. George Robinson, and seconded by Mr. J. B. Folingsby :—

That the thanks of the meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and other Directors for their careful attention to the interests of the Bank during the past year.

Mr. Cox.—I desire on behalf of my co-Directors and myself to thank the meeting for the vote of thanks to the President, Vice-President and Directors. Speaking for myself, my duty as President is a very pleasant one, for I am surrounded by a number of gentlemen who have no interests to serve save those of the Bank, and are able and competent in the discharge of their duties. I have the proud honour to preside over a staff, from the General Manager to the juniors, that, I am sure, cannot be surpassed by any banking institution in this or any other country. I thank you for this resolution.



Moved by Mr. John Scott and seconded by Mr. Henry Beatty, that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager and other officers of the Bank for the satisfactory discharge of their respective duties during the past year.

Mr. Cox.—I have a better opportunity than anyone else of seeing, from day to day, the untiring zeal and watchfulness with which these gentlemen perform the duties of their respective offices. It is always a pleasure to me, in submitting this resolution, to feel that it is not merely a formal resolution, but one which I know deserves and receives the cordial approval of the Shareholders.

Mr. Walker.—I have to thank you very much for the resolution. Although it is passed as a formal matter, and in stereotyped language, I can assure you that as far as the staff, from the youngest juniors up to the General Manager, is concerned, it has more than a merely formal significance.

I have also to thank the Shareholders for the grant to the Superannuation Fund. We have discussed this matter exhaustively for a couple of years past, with the best actuarial assistance we could obtain, and we think we have arrived at a more or less scientific basis for the Fund. It is desirable, if we do start it, that at the end of 15 or 20 years it should be able to stand the strain that will then fall upon it. The staff has grown again this year as you have seen, but this cannot go on forever. Many people think that bank officers are not hard worked, but from my own experience I think there are few establishments where men are more severely taxed than in the larger branches of The Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Mr. Plummer.—I do not know that I need add anything to what Mr. Walker has said, except my acknowledgments for my own share in the vote of thanks. I think the annual contribution to the Superannuation Fund, which the Shareholders have voted, is after all the very best evidence of their appreciation that they could have given us.

We would have liked very much to have embodied some such provision as other banks have, whereby benefits accrue to widows and orphans of deserving officers, but we have seen clearly that the Fund could not stand that and survive, and we have therefore confined our scheme to superannuation only for the present. I hope, however, that we shall, after a time, be able to undertake the foundation of a Widows' and Orphans' Fund, but that must be a separate fund, for which special contributions will be necessary.

Moved by Mr. John I. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Jas. Crathern, and carried, that the meeting do now proceed to elect Directors for the coming year, and that for this purpose the ballot-box be now opened and remain open until three o'clock this day, the poll to be closed, however, whenever five minutes shall have elapsed without a vote being tendered; the result of the election to be reported by the scrutineers to the General Manager.

The meeting then adjourned.

The scrutineers subsequently reported the following gentlemen to be elected as Directors for the ensuing year:— Messrs. Geo. A. Cox, James Crathern, John I. Davidson, William B. Hamilton, John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., Robert Kilgour, Matthew Leggat and George Taylor.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held subsequently, George A. Cox, Esq., was re-elected President, and John I. Davidson, Esq., Vice-President.

# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONTARIO

CAPITAL PAID-UP	-	-	-	-	-	\$6,000,000
REST	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,200,000

## *DIRECTORS:*

GEO. A. COX, ESQ.,	-	-	PRESIDENT.
JOHN I. DAVIDSON, ESQ.,	-	-	VICE-PRESIDENT.
JAMES CRATHERN, ESQ.			ROBERT KILGOUR, ESQ.
WM. B. HAMILTON, ESQ.			MATTHEW LEGGAT, ESQ.
JOHN HOSKIN, ESQ., Q.C., LL.D.			

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B. E. WALKER, General Manager.	
J. H. PLUMMER, Asst. General Manager.	
A. H. IRELAND, Inspector.	G. de C. O'GRADY, Asst. Inspector.



## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

### ONTARIO—

AILSA CRAIG.....	G. M. WEDD.....	Manager.
AYR .....	JOHN WYLLIE.....	Agent.
BARRIE .....	H. H. MORRIS.....	Manager.
BELLEVILLE.....	C. M. STORK .....	"
BERLIN .....	W. C. J. KING... ..	"
BLENHEIM.....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
BRANTFORD.....	JEFFERY HALE.....	"
CAYUGA .....	W. C. T. MORSON .....	"
CHATHAM .....	J. E. THOMAS.....	"
COLLINGWOOD .....	JAS. BRYDON.....	"
DUNDAS.....	F. W. HOLMESTED .....	"
DUNNVILLE .....	R. G. W. CONOLLY .....	"
GALT.....	J. M. DUFF .....	"
GODERICH .....	R. S. WILLIAMS.....	"
GUELPH.....	B. R. MCCONKEY .....	"
HAMILTON .....	WM. ROBERTS .....	"
JARVIS.....	W. C. T. MORSON .....	"
LONDON .....	D. B. DEWAR .....	"
ORANGEVILLE .....	H. T. WILLS.....	"
OTTAWA ... ..	ROBERT GILL.....	"
PARIS .....	R. C. MACPHERSON....	"
PARKHILL.....	G. M. WEDD.....	"
PETERBORO.....	WM. MANSON .....	"
ST. CATHARINES.....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
SARNIA .....	T. W. NISBET.....	"
SAULT STE. MARIE .....	D. MCGREGOR .....	"
SEAFORTH. ....	M. MORRIS.....	"
SIMCOE .....	E. COWDRY .....	"
STRATFORD .....	W. MAYNARD, JR. ....	"
STRATHROY.....	L. H. DAMPIER.....	"
THOROLD.....	F. O. CROSS .....	"
TORONTO (Chief Office) ..	{ JOHN C. KEMP.....	"
	{ JOHN AIRD.....	Asst. Mgr.
268 COLLEGE, COR. SPADINA	G. A. HOLLAND.....	Manager.
163 KING ST. EAST.....	R. C. MCHARRIE.....	"
399 PARLIAMENT ST.....	V. E. HART.....	"
712 QUEEN ST. EAST .....	E. M. PLAYTER .....	"

## BRANCHES AND AGENCIES—Continued.

544 QUEEN ST. WEST .....	H. C. SECORD.....	Manager.
450 YONGE, COR. COLLEGE.	T. S. HARRISON.....	"
791 YONGE ST.....	R. J. MONTGOMERY....	"
TORONTO JUNCTION .....	R. C. JENNINGS.....	"
WALKERTON .....	G. W. MCKEE.....	"
WALKERVILLE.....	{ H. B. WALKER.....	"
	{ F. C. G. MINTY.....	Sub-Mgr.
WATERFORD .....	E. COWDRY .....	Manager.
WATERLOO.....	H. J. GRASETT.....	"
WINDSOR .....	H. B. WALKER.....	"
WOODSTOCK .....	D. H. CHARLES.....	"

### QUEBEC—

MONTREAL (Chief Office).	{ A. M. CROMBIE .....	Manager.
	{ J. L. HARCOURT .....	Asst. Mgr.
19 CHABOILLEZ SQUARE..	W. W. RUTHVEN .....	Manager.
276 ST. LAWRENCE ST....	J. G. PYKE.....	"

### MANITOBA—

WINNIPEG .....	F. H. MATHEWSON.....	Manager.
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### UNITED STATES—

NEW YORK .....	{ ALEX. LAIRD .....	Agents.
	{ WM. GRAY.....	

## BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

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### GREAT BRITAIN—

The Bank of Scotland.

### INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN—

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

### AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND—

The Union Bank of Australia, Limited.

### PARIS, FRANCE—

Crédit Lyonnais.

Messrs. Lazard Frères & Cie.

### GERMANY—

Deutsche Bank.

### BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—

Messrs. J. Matthieu & Fils.

### NEW YORK—

The American Exchange National Bank of New York.

### SAN FRANCISCO—

The Bank of British Columbia.

### CHICAGO—

The American Exchange National Bank of Chicago.

### DULUTH, MINNESOTA—

The First National Bank.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA—

The Bank of British Columbia.

### HAMILTON, BERMUDA—

The Bank of Bermuda.

### KINGSTON, JAMAICA—

The Bank of Nova Scotia.

# GENERAL STATEMENT

31ST MAY, 1894.

## LIABILITIES

Notes of the Bank in circulation .....	\$ 2,370,925 00
Deposits not bearing interest.....	\$ 2,656,624 68
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date .....	14,913,611 97
Balances due to other Banks in Canada .....	17,570,236 65
Balances due to Agents in Great Britain .....	12,615 94
Dividends unpaid .....	797,856 68
Dividend No. 54, payable 1st June.....	1,219 07
Capital paid-up.....	\$6,000,000 00
Rest .....	1,200,000 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward .....	19,157 02
	7,219,157 02
	<u>\$28,182,010 36</u>

## ASSETS

Specie.....	\$411,001 35
Dominion Notes.....	718,146 25
	\$ 1,129,147 60
Deposit with Dominion Government for security of Note circulation.....	157,875 00
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	607,089 43
Balances due by other Banks in Canada .....	86,293 11
Balances due by Agents of the Bank in the United States..	1,782,799 16
Balances due by Foreign Correspondents .....	6,979 80
Canadian Government Securities, Municipal and other Bonds .....	2,248,795 55
Call Loans on Stocks and Bonds.....	1,822,856 37
	\$ 7,841,836 02
Time Loans on Stocks and Bonds.....	1,003,295 57
Other Current Loans and Discounts.....	18,275,150 27
Overdue Debts (loss fully provided for) .....	123,045 83
Real Estate (other than Bank Premises).....	19,997 98
Mortgages.....	115,397 14
Bank Premises and Furniture.....	732,506 08
Other Assets .....	70,781 47
	<u>\$28,182,010 36</u>



# THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

## REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF

## THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

TUESDAY, 19TH JUNE, 1894.

The twenty-seventh Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce was held in the banking-house on Tuesday, 19th June, 1894, at 12 o'clock. Among those present were :—Messrs. Geo. A. Cox, John I. Davidson, W. B. Hamilton, Robert Kilgour, Matthew Leggat, Hamilton; Hugh Ryan, Dr. U. Ogden, B. Homer Dixon, John Catto, Thomas Kirkland, M.A., A. V. Delaporte, Thomas Walmsley, Robert Swan, John Scott, John Nicol, James Neilson, Geo. Robinson, I. McG. Chafee, John Tucker, Allanburgh; Philip Browne, J. Lorne Campbell, Æmilius Jarvis, G. T. Fergusson, and others.

On motion, the President, Mr. Geo. A. Cox, was requested to take the chair, and Mr. J. H. Plummer, the Assistant General Manager, was appointed to act as Secretary.

It was moved by Mr. W. B. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. R. Kilgour, that Messrs. Philip Browne, J. Lorne Campbell and Æmilius Jarvis act as scrutineers.

The President called upon the Secretary to read the Annual Report of the Directors as follows :—

### REPORT.

The Directors beg to present to the Shareholders the twenty-seventh Annual Report, covering the year ending 31st May, 1894, together with the usual Statement of Assets and Liabilities :—

The Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, brought forward from last year, is.....	\$ 23,561 12
The net profits for the year ending 31st May, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts amounted to.....	528,095 90
	<u>\$551,657 02</u>

Which has been appropriated as follows:—

Dividends Nos. 53 and 54, at seven per cent. per annum .....	\$420,000 00
Transferred to Rest Account.....	100,000 00
Written off Bank Premises and Furniture .....	12,500 00
Balance carried forward.....	19,157 02
	<u>\$551,657 02</u>

The usual careful revaluation of the entire assets of the Bank has been made, and all bad and doubtful debts have been amply provided for.

The various branches, agencies and departments of the Bank have been inspected during the year.

A branch of the Bank was recently opened at Waterford with a view of retaining valuable deposit and discount business in that neighbourhood, which would otherwise have found its way to other institutions.

The very difficult and laborious work connected with the establishment of a Superannuation Fund has been concluded, but not in time to enable the accounts of the Fund to be actually opened during the year which has just closed. It is, however, confidently expected that the Fund will be in operation in a few weeks.

During the year we have lost by death the oldest Director of the Bank, Mr. George Taylor. In 1871 he succeeded his brother, Mr. John Taylor, who had been a Director of the Bank from its commencement. For over a year past, owing to the state of his health, he had been unable to attend the

meetings of the Board, and in this connection a resolution will be offered to the Shareholders reducing the number of Directors to seven.

The Directors have again pleasure in recording their appreciation of the efficiency and zeal with which their respective duties have been performed by the officers of the Bank.

GEO. A. COX,  
President

The Report having been read, the President said :—

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

In moving the adoption of the Report I think I may count with more than usual confidence upon the approval of the Shareholders, because, notwithstanding a year of unparalleled disaster throughout the world, we are able to present a statement not remarkably different from past years. The profits are only slightly less than for the past two years, and the addition to the Rest is the same as we have been able to make for the past seven years. The only changes in our Statement which might call for comment arise from the general shrinkage of business which it will be seen has not affected us very seriously.

Our notes in circulation are always at a low point in May, but this year the amount is smaller by \$330,000 than last year.

During the year, deposits of the class which are lodged with banks until mortgage or other investments can be secured, were withdrawn to a very large extent, but by the natural growth of our business this was almost made up by the end of the year, our deposits being now but \$400,000 less than at the close of the previous year, which was the highest in the history of the Bank. There would have been no difficulty in largely increasing our deposits had we been willing to meet the competition in rates, but as our current loans and discounts are over a million dollars less than a year ago, that would have been an unwise course to pursue.

The immediate outlook is not very promising for the banks in the matter of making profits. During the first half of the past year our earnings were very good indeed, but the period of financial strain and the subsequent liquidation in the volume of general business have completely altered the situation, as was to be expected. In the struggle to obtain deposits during the period of strain some banks and other institutions paid rates for money which, if warranted at all, were only warranted for a few weeks. The effect of this on those who had deposits likely to be withdrawn by such offers, and who felt obliged to meet the competition, was to raise somewhat the average cost of deposits at the very time when it was clear that we were entering upon a period of liquidation, and therefore of easy money. For a few weeks the borrowers from banks had to pay a slightly increased rate, but this not only lasted a very short time, but in addition the liquidation of mercantile discounts which followed has largely increased the amount invested in loans on stocks and bonds, the average rate of interest on which at the moment is very unsatisfactory.

The borrowing public of Canada will doubtless never know just what they owe to the banks for the policy followed by the latter during the summer and autumn of 1893. Bankers are supposed to be as willing as private individuals to lend at the highest obtainable rates to whoever will give the best security, and where they do otherwise it is presumed self interest is the only reason which causes them to refrain from selecting whichever business will at the moment pay the best. No doubt this is quite true, but it is well to remember that some credit is due to those who see their self interest in a broad, instead of a narrow policy. During the summer and autumn of 1893 the applications for loans from private individuals and firms, industrial companies, municipal corporations, banks, and in fact every kind of business concern in the United States, from the Western States to the Atlantic Seaboard, were simply without number, and those who came were but the select few who felt because of the sufficient security



OTTAWA, ONT.



they had to offer, and the high rates they were prepared to pay, their wants would surely be supplied. As a rule the answer from all Canadian banks was the same, and it was, that at the moment they were taking care of their own country. Private individuals in Canada availed themselves largely of the chance to obtain high rates, but the banks did not. Some Canadian borrowers were annoyed at the slight advance in rates, but they did not reflect that the money lent to them could have been lent elsewhere at very much higher rates of interest, nor did some of them reflect upon the difference between a country where the solvent borrower could not obtain a loan, no matter how good the security, and this country, where it may be safely said that no worthy customer of a bank found his banking facilities in any way curtailed.

The General Manager will have something to say to you regarding the critical time through which the world is passing, and I will not say anything further upon that point, but in this period where so many in making up their annual accounts have losses to reckon with, instead of gains, I may be permitted to say something regarding a class of losses now being borne by many Canadians, which are to be regretted for the unsound business ideas they indicate more than for the actual money losses sustained. We hear every now and then of large sums of money having been transmitted through brokers' offices to cover margins on adverse speculations in Chicago and New York. I would be afraid to repeat some of these statements because, no matter how true, many people would refuse to believe them, but it is certain that in the aggregate the stock and grain speculating public of Canada have had to bear losses amounting to many millions of dollars—a very serious and direct burden upon the industry of this country. We are not likely to fail in sympathy for those who make losses in attempting to build up an industry, or to carry on any real trading venture; they have perhaps helped the country although they have failed to make money for themselves, but this species of gambling which year after year only results in

taking money out of Canada to help support the brokers in Chicago and New York, is very much to be regretted. It is a pity the law is powerless to restrain them for their own good, and to protect the business morals of the community. Many a Canadian who by attention to his legitimate business was developing habits of thrift and industry, which would make him valuable to the community and useful to himself, and who has been induced to deal in Chicago, has early in his experience made a little money, and has thus been led to feel that the old methods of moderate profits for daily toil were slow and wearisome, but later on, when his speculations went against him, he has found that he has not only lost his money, but has also impaired or lost his habits of perseverance and industry, and in many cases becomes discouraged and joins the already overcrowded ranks of unsuccessful traders.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the removal by death since our last Annual Meeting of Mr. George Taylor, who, for a period of twenty-three years, was a valued and highly respected member of our Board. His prompt and regular attendance at the meetings (until prevented by impaired health), his kind and courteous disposition and his devotion to the interests of the Bank will long be remembered by his colleagues.

A resolution will be submitted for your approval, fixing the number of Directors at seven.

In conclusion, I want to say on behalf of my fellow Directors and myself, how much we are indebted and how much the Shareholders are indebted for the unceasing care and attention given to the interests of the Bank by the General Manager, Assistant General Manager, Inspectors, local managers and entire staff. The safe and profitable employment of over twenty-eight millions of dollars during the most prosperous times and under the most favourable circumstances requires ability, energy and unremitting attention on the part of the executive and their staff, and this is the case to a much greater extent during a period such as the



financial and commercial world have been passing through. That this Bank has received such attention is evidenced by the Annual Statement that I have now the pleasure to submit for your approval.

The Vice-President briefly seconded the resolution, and the General Manager then spoke as follows:—

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

As the President has dealt so fully with the Statement of the Bank and its earnings, I will not trespass on your time in that connection. Considering the year through which we have passed, it is perhaps a sufficient matter of congratulation that we are able to meet the Shareholders with our customary exhibit of reasonable prosperity. Canada has escaped from the serious losses following the panics in various countries, and in congratulating ourselves, we are apt to regard ourselves as in some way out of the currents which have so affected almost every nation as to bring about a world-wide liquidation. If this were true, it would mean either that our affairs were so small and our situation so isolated as to enable us to keep from being entangled in the general wreck, or that we were much more prudent and far-seeing than others. We all know that this is not true. We are not so small as to escape entanglement nor so clever as to avoid altogether mistakes which have been general throughout the world. We may, however, take considerable satisfaction out of the moderation of our course in public and private business for some years past, whether this course was enforced upon us by conditions we could not alter, or was the result of our own prudence; and we may congratulate ourselves upon the soundness of our business institutions because whatever may be the reason they certainly stood the test admirably in a time of great trial.

#### STATE OF TRADE.

The financial events of the past year have been of too dramatic a nature to have passed from your memory, and it would not be worth while to occupy your time in recalling

them in any extended remarks, but a few words may not be amiss, bearing in mind that the interests of Canada and the United States are so intimate that no event of commercial importance can happen to the latter country without in some measure affecting us, or at least offering us an object lesson for our guidance in the future.

When I addressed the Shareholders a year ago, the collapse in Australia and Italy had taken place, and we were already wondering why the acute stages of the panic in the United States did not abate. Whatever may have been our sense of the gravity of the situation, however much we may have predicted trouble as certain to arise from unwise silver and currency legislation and unexampled speculation in business, we were all equally astonished at the terribly prolonged period of actual panic which resulted. A panic is generally shortlived, no matter how extended the period of depression which follows, but this particular panic lasted from May until the close of August, without any abatement of its feverish conditions. During the year 1893 about 600 national, state, savings and private banks and trust and mortgage companies, suspended with liabilities of about \$170,000,000. At the close of the year less than 200 had resumed. Hundreds of savings banks were obliged to avail themselves of the notice required from depositors, although it is but fair to state that this was in many cases resorted to as the easiest way of allaying the panic in the particular town or city. The failures in general business, including the banks, as recorded by Bradstreet, reached, in the nine months ending 1st October, 11,174, the liabilities amounting to the astounding sum of \$325,000,000.

Apart from this, railroad companies representing one-third of the mileage of the United States, passed into the hands of receivers, and manufacturing establishments throughout the entire country either shut down entirely or enormously curtailed production. The manifestation of the extent of the over-supply of commodities which had been

produced, combined with the intense pressure to sell at any sacrifice; the suddenly developed inability to buy even for ordinary wants, and the prospect of a much diminished purchasing power for a long period, brought about a collapse in prices such as few nations have been called upon to bear, and indeed such as few nations could bear without absolute ruin. If we realize that most of the loss is irrecoverable, that in the aggregate it reaches some billions of dollars, that a very large part of the community has no capital accumulated, and, therefore, does not share in the mere loss from fall in values, we can understand how enormous the losses are which must be borne by individuals. Those who do not share in the loss from the fall in prices, experience in many cases the loss involved in lower wages, while hundreds of thousands have been thrown altogether out of employment.

The punishment for political and commercial unsoundness has been terrible, and will doubtless involve some years of trade depression, but if the lessons incident to the disaster were accepted by the people of the United States as a whole, even such a terrible trial would not be an unmixed evil. Unfortunately the party which governs from time to time in the United States is not the result of a diversity of opinion in national matters existing in every particular community, but a party the members of which in many cases come from sections where the feeling or self-interest is all in one direction. In consequence, questions of great national importance are apt to be settled in accordance with the benefits, or supposed benefits, to be derived in certain sections from following a course which nevertheless may be to the last degree hurtful to the nation as a whole. This is doubtless true to some extent in all countries possessing representative government, but surely in no other country does such absolute blindness to national interest exist as in the United States, owing to the habit of viewing all legislation from the geographical standpoint. By a great political effort, aided by the panic as a terrible object-lesson, the silver-purchase bill was

repealed, and it was hoped that this would convince those who extend credit to the United States that honest views had triumphed for all time. This was a vain hope, however, and it is as certain as ever that even at the risk of absolute ruin to the national finances, the sections interested in silver will continue to agitate for free coinage. A complete reform of the banking system is also necessary, and for at least two years past the press of the United States, east, west and south, have published articles without number on the subject, while at every convention of bankers it has been the burden of discussion. The pamphleteer has been busy and the students in the universities have made it the subject of debate or essay, and yet as between reform of the existing national banking system, or return to state bank circulation by the repeal of the tax, or the creation of a new system freed from the evils of both, there appears to be no settled public opinion and no basis of discussion which does not involve sectional as opposed to national interest.

We all know the recuperative power of that great country and the energy of its people, and we must admire the faith in their country which they exhibit, whether we look back at the splendid courage, fertility of resource, and keen sense of danger, exhibited by the New York bankers in the worst days of the panic, or at the present cheerful patience of the manufacturer and importer as they await the outcome of tariff legislation, ready as soon as the conditions are established to make headway against any sort of difficulty, so long as it is merely a difficulty and not a condition of uncertainty. But for the moment it is foolish to shirk the facts, which all point to a shrunken condition of business for some time to come. The extent of the shrinkage as exhibited in the clearing house returns is enormous. The total clearings of all the chief cities in the United States have fallen from sixty-two billion dollars to less than forty-six billion dollars in the year just closed.

Great Britain, with her own enormous losses to bear, is suffering very much from the inability of her chief customer to buy, and all Europe is similarly affected.

In Canada complaints of bad collections and diminished trading are general, and there are certainly many more idle men than usual, but none of these unfavourable conditions approach in degree to the conditions in other countries. Farmers' notes for implements, apart from the North-West, while not paid perhaps quite as well as usual, were nevertheless well paid, and mortgage interest and instalments were well met. Economy is general, and this, although such a good thing in itself, has much to do with the prevailing feeling that times are hard. The clearing house returns show a decrease from \$1,038,000,000 to \$925,000,000 for the year just closed, a falling off of only eleven per cent., as against twenty-six per cent. in the United States. Our prosperity of course depends very much on the power of other countries to buy, and we cannot expect that our foreign export trade will continue to grow as rapidly as it has during recent years. The main question for us is one of prices. On the import side we are benefited by the lower price of the manufactured articles and raw material we import. We are also likely to import most carefully, because the spirit of economy for the time being is very strong. When we turn to the export side the question is, do we export products of the kind at the moment not being over-produced by the world, and are we turning our attention to the products in which there is apparently the most certainty of a favourable market?

#### LUMBER.

For the year ending June 30th, 1893, the value of our exports of woods in all conditions, manufactured and unmanufactured, was about \$29,000,000, against \$25,000,000 five years ago.

What the year which is just closing will show we cannot say, but one of the features which showed conclusively in what strong hands the business is generally held, was the

promptitude with which the United States firms, who had contracted to take our lumber, carried out their obligations, notwithstanding the financial storm. Had it not been for this, our lumbermen would hardly have known what course to pursue during the past winter. As it was they doubtless intended, as a whole, to take out about the usual quantity, but the early mild weather broke up the winter roads, and, as a consequence, some hundreds of millions of feet are left in the woods. In the Ottawa district most of the logs were got out, and, despite some trouble with low water, will in the main reach the mills promptly. The logs held back are mainly in the Georgian Bay and North Shore districts.

In the Ottawa district, the cut of logs and the logs carried over will make the supply about the same as last year, a little over six million pieces, but the quantity of timber made is trifling.

The nature of the market will depend much on the United States tariff. The entire cut of deals has been contracted for and is being actively shipped to Great Britain, aided by low freights. The business with Great Britain in thin lumber is steadily growing and that part of the trade is very satisfactory. On the other hand, part of the lumber paid for by United States buyers is not yet shipped, and although many good contracts for this season's sawing have been made, the actual shipments are smaller than at any time recently. While this is due partly to the very bad condition of business in the United States, the settlement of the tariff will doubtless make a market for our lumber, although perhaps with a slight concession in price from last year. Stocks in the United States are said not to be large, and our supply will no doubt be required.

#### AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

Turning from the forest to the dairy, we have once more exceeded any previous record in cheese making, and by our victories at Chicago have advertised Canada as beyond doubt one of the greatest dairy countries in the world. For

the year ending 31st March, the value of cheese exported was \$14,647,000, a gain of about one million dollars on the previous year, and while we increase, the exports of the United States continue to decrease, falling last year for the same period to \$6,492,618, a decline of about one-and-a-half million dollars. The season in Canada has been profitable to both the cheese maker and the shipper, and the price in a year of general decline was nearly a quarter of a cent per pound higher in the average than for the previous year. New factories are not only being built in the districts noted for cheese making, but many parts of the country which have not heretofore produced cheese are now preparing to do so. The question of absolutely prime importance is that we shall keep up the high quality. The awards at Chicago may seem to make such a dread unnecessary, but it is at the moment when we have achieved the position of being the largest cheese exporters in the world and our reputation is at the highest, that we are apt to become careless. Putting the results of the June and October competitions together, Canada, out of 687 entries, obtained 608 awards, while the United States, out of 640 entries, obtained 54 awards.

The farmers generally, and especially the cheese factories, are at last taking up seriously the very important business of fattening hogs. Although as compared with cheese making and cattle feeding, it is only in its infancy, what may be done is indicated by the fact that while our exports of pork products down to 1889 were less than half a million dollars, for the year ending 30th June, 1893, they exceeded three millions. That we have something to learn as to quality and the kind of animal from which the best return can be obtained there is no doubt. As in every other farm product, if we are to secure the British market we must raise not the second-best but the best.

The business of shipping live cattle, which amounted five years ago in value to about \$9,000,000, had increased to nearly \$11,000,000 for the year ending 30th June, 1893, but during

the past year the business has been unprofitable to almost all concerned, both graziers and shippers. A fall of about one cent and a half per pound is a very serious shrinkage but what relation the present somewhat improved price has to the actual cost of production is a matter not easy to learn. Even if the British restrictions were removed it would doubtless take some time for the business to entirely recover. Meantime the country is full of fat cattle, and in many parts the farmers' slowness in paying the storekeeper is doubtless due to the greater quantity of stock on their farms and not to inability. Many of the animals fed on grass this season have been bought by the graziers at very low prices, and the removal of the restrictions, accompanied as it would be by a slight improvement in price, would bring about large shipments. The prospect of fair treatment by Great Britain to our cattle is not very good, however.

The export of fruits in all conditions has exceeded in value \$3,000,000, while hay has reached half that figure. Both businesses are subject to large risks because of the great variability in the crop gathered, but the growing importance of fruit especially demands the attention of the better class of farmers. If as much intelligence as is applied to cheese-making could be applied to the orchard the results would astonish the people of Ontario. Of course my remarks do not apply to the Niagara and adjacent districts, where fruit growing is so well developed and so profitable.

It seems reasonably clear, then, that so far as the products of the forest and the dairy are concerned, we are prospering and need not fear over-production. In pork products we have room for indefinite expansion, and every farmer should bear this in mind. In our cattle trade the course is less clear and we can only hope for better prices and just treatment from Great Britain. We will also hope that the tariff legislation in the United States, when settled, will again give a reasonable measure of freedom to the trade in the products of lesser importance, but which in the aggregate have much to do with our farmers' prosperity.



During the last five years we have increased our exports about twenty-eight millions, the increase in the imports being only about fifteen millions, and the difference for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1893, between imports and exports, was reduced to about ten millions against us. If we can even maintain this situation for a few years we will do well. We are likely to improve the comparison as far as imports are concerned, owing to the prevailing economy. Can we not also, by further improved methods, make the world still give the preference to our products because of superior quality and cheapness, and despite the smaller purchasing power of the world, continue to increase our exports?

There is, in the United States and Canada, a certain amount of discussion going on as to beet-root culture. It is claimed that we can easily excel Germany in growing beet-roots, and yet, for some reason, we have not made a success where it has been tried, and perhaps it may be said that we have not given it a practical trial at all. Without presuming to have any opinion on the subject, we would like every farmer to consider that we imported in 1893, \$7,500,000 worth of raw sugars, syrups, etc., and that, if even the proportion of that which was represented by German beet-root sugar, which for the United States and Canada is about one-fifth, could be supplied by Canadian farmers, the gain to Canada would be very great indeed. We pay to foreign countries for iron and steel and for raw sugar \$20,000,000, nearly one-sixth of our whole imports. If these are materials for the production of which we are by nature well situated, it is at least discreditable to such an enterprising people that more is not done to develop these industries.

The year has been, as we all know, particularly hard upon our people of the North-West, in common with the districts in the United States where wheat-growing is the leading feature in agriculture. A very low yield per acre and prices lower than ever before to a country depending mainly on grain, means something uncomfortably near disaster, and

there is no use in disguising the fact that in actual power to pay debts out of the current season's products, the farmers of the North-West were worse off during the past year than ever before. But it would be a mistake to conclude therefrom that the people of that part of Canada are doubtful as to their future.

In the course of their progress to material wealth our North-West provinces must expect the recurrence at intervals of such vicissitudes, and the question is, what are they to learn from the present experience? That they must raise everything for which there is a market other than wheat is clear, and in this they will only repeat the experience of what were once great wheat-growing States in the United States, but which have many years since passed the maximum of wheat acreage. That they must farm more within their own means, both as to capital and the employment of labour, seems clear, but they have in the past only displayed the same expansive tendencies as their fellow merchants, and as all people in new countries who have not yet got their financial bearings. Hereafter, both from lessened ability and greater dread of debt, there will be improvement. But while the experiments in mixed farming are being made and the dreary lessons of enforced economy are being learned, the fact remains that for years to come wheat must be the main item in what they have to sell, and, if they have to face the opening up of an indefinite area of new wheat land in the Argentine and elsewhere, they may have a hard time of it for a while. But the Argentine has again collapsed financially, and its farmers are about to learn that fancy prices for wheat in worthless paper-money with gold at a premium of 300 may be quite delusive as to the profits of wheat-growing. We are not yet prepared to believe that the rude agriculturist of the Argentine can in the long run raise wheat cheaper, having regard to quality, than the farmers of the North-West.

Thrift and the highest intelligence in wheat culture, combined with an energy unknown to the mixed races of South America, must give the victory to us unless the question

be entirely one of transportation. But doubtless, as with most of the world's products, the question is one of transportation. The Canadian Pacific Railway claim to carry as cheaply as is possible, and in the present condition of railroad earnings this is probably true. But it is also true that railroads will year after year be forced to lower rates, and must somehow carry wheat to Europe at prices which will leave a living profit to the farmer over a series of years. The great transportation question, however, which is agitating many people in Canada and the United States, is the possibility of better water transit. Can we not improve upon the Erie and find some means of getting to seaboard? Are we to see the huge round traffic of the upper lakes deported at Buffalo, are we to try and secure that traffic, and, what is much more important, provide the necessary cheaper transportation to our North-West provinces? We who are inexperienced in the practical aspect of such matters talk vaguely about widening and deepening the present canals, or about a new canal across Ontario, or of connecting French River and Lake Nipissing, and thus making a route by the Ottawa River.

For lack of information we do not know what should be done, we only feel that something practical might be done. In such an emergency it seems to be the duty of the Dominion Government to have surveys made and report on all the proposed routes, so that the people of Quebec, Ontario and the North-West provinces may at least be in a position to express an intelligent opinion on such a vital question. I am sure we are sufficiently free from local bias to hold up our hands for whatever route will accomplish the great end of being the cheapest from the west to the seaboard. If there are those who say we cannot afford the expenditure, the answer is that we do not know whether we can or not until an intelligent report is before us. If success in wheat growing is all important to the North-West, and if, having overcome the terrors of frost, the barrier is transportation, we must in some way remove it.

In the meantime let us remember that about 12,000,000 bushels of wheat and about 25,000 head of cattle were exported, and altogether the North-West realized about \$6,000,000 out of their products, which is not a very bad return for such a small population.

Reports from forty-five districts show that the acreage under crop in the North-West is as large as last year, in some districts larger, and while rain is much required in many places, prospects are quite good, and the general feeling is not at all one of discouragement.

In our own province there has been damage by rain on low lands and some replanting is necessary, but there is no reason to doubt that we will have about as good crops on the average as usual.

The motion for the adoption of the Report was then put and carried.

On motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Leggat, the By-law respecting the Directors was amended making the number of the same seven, instead of eight as formerly.

The usual votes of thanks to the President, Vice-President and Directors and also to the General Manager, Assistant General Manager and other members of the staff, were carried unanimously.

In response to the latter Mr. Walker spoke as follows:—

I thank you very much for the resolution. It is one which we hear every year, and perhaps as far as the officers high up in the service are concerned, it might not be necessary, but as regards the general staff, who have to wait a long time for very well deserved promotion, this resolution is a matter of greater importance than it may seem. We have a very large and a very loyal staff, and it is well they should have some evidence that their zeal and loyalty are appreciated. We endeavour to do what we can for our men, to make them feel a pride in the institution with which they are connected; we recognize that their enthusiasm and pride in this respect

is a matter of vital importance in carrying on the affairs of the Bank successfully. We have done something for our staff in the way of athletics, because we believe that in looking after them physically we do much for them mentally.

In this connection I might mention a very gratifying circumstance which has taken place this year. There is an Association of Bankers in the Dominion in which each year prizes are offered for essays on senior and junior subjects. This year, out of thirty-five essays sent in, twelve were written by officers of this Bank, and out of the four prizes, the two firsts and the second in the senior competition were won by officers of this Bank. This may not seem a subject of very much importance to the Shareholders, but it is a matter of great gratification to the Executive to see how high a view of their calling is taken by the officers of this Bank.

After the meeting had adjourned the scrutineers reported the following gentlemen to be elected Directors for the ensuing year:—Messrs. Geo. A. Cox, James Crathern, John I. Davidson, William B. Hamilton, John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D., Robert Kilgour and Matthew Leggat.

At a meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors held subsequently, George A. Cox, Esq., was re-elected President, and John I. Davidson, Esq., Vice-President.